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"Older than the New York Times"

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Murphy to retire after 34th year as men's basketball coach

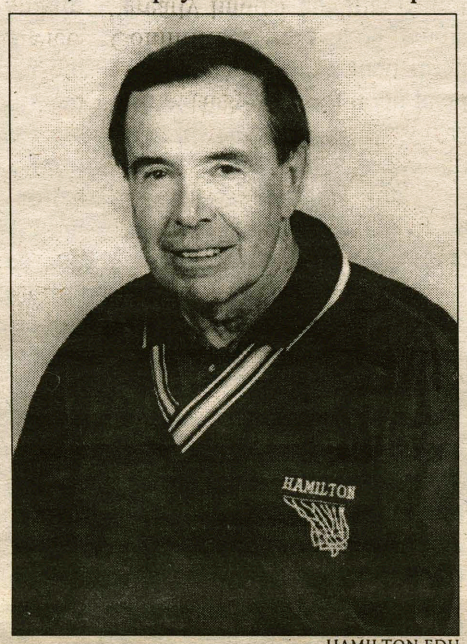
by Ian Mandel '06
NEWS EDITOR

Hamilton College men's basketball coach Tom Murphy announced that he will retire at the end of the 2003-04 season, his thirty-fourth year leading the Continentals. As of the morning of Thursday, December 4, Murphy's teams have compiled 587 wins and only 254 losses, a winning percentage of .698, making him one of the winningest coaches in Division III history.

The College hired Murphy after his seven-year career coaching high school basketball in Belleville, New York, where his team set a state record for most consecutive victories. Taking the reins at Hamilton in 1970, Murphy received a harsh welcome to collegiate athletics, losing at least his first eleven games. Over his first four seasons as the head coach at Hamilton, Murphy's teams went a combined 16-62.

"It was a challenge when I first came here, let's put it that way," Murphy said.

After his success coaching high school ball, Murphy was unaccustomed to losing. Yet Murphy was able to turn the program around, and the Continentals have not had a losing season



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Men's basketball coach Tom Murphy will retire at the conclusion of the 2003-04 season.

*see **Murphy**, page 4*

Stewart reconstitutes Coalition on Alcohol to propose changes to College policies

by Sarah M. Gould '05
FEATURES EDITOR

In a move towards addressing the issues surrounding alcohol consumption at Hamilton, President Joan Hinde Stewart announced Monday that she would be reconstituting the Coalition on Alcohol. The committee is comprised of administrators, faculty and students and will report back to the president with suggestions for practical and wide-ranging changes by March 15 of the coming year.

As Stewart outlined in an all-student e-mail, the committee is charged with "evaluating and proposing improvements to Hamilton's policies, enforcement practices, social climate, prevention programs, and links with the local community as they relate to alcohol."

The reconstitution of the Coalition comes after longitudinal surveys conducted over the past years produced results indicating that the negative effects of alcohol consumption on the Hill far exceed national averages and norms. The suggestions for improving and changing the climate linked to alcohol abuse are intended to help alleviate what Stewart calls the "consequences associated with the excessive and irresponsible use of alcohol on the part of some students."

Nancy Thompson, Senior Associate Dean of Students and the Chair of the Coalition on Alcohol, explained that the goal of the committee is "not to eliminate the use of alcohol on campus, but address the negative aspects." These negative aspects fall broadly into several categories: vandalism, sexual assault, drunk driving, injuries and academic problems.

"I think we just wanted to create a group that looked at all of the facets of the alcohol issues at Hamilton," Thompson said, citing that these facets include policies, enforcement, social climate, relationship with the downtown area and educational prevention geared towards alcohol awareness.

The studies conducted by the College and overseen by Director of Counseling and Psychiatric Services Bob Kazin show that Hamilton far exceeds national norms with respect to the consequences of excessive drinking.

"There are students that think what's going on here is normal; that's just flat-out wrong," Kazin said.

Incidents of fights, injuries, vandalism, sexual assault and poor academic performance occur far more often than they do at other colleges.

Statistically, drunk driving occurs less often at Hamilton than the national average, and an essential part of the Coalition's plan is to reduce the occurrences of all the aforementioned problems. In order to implement change, Kazin explained that students must realize the gravity of the problem.

"My hope is that students come to realize that what is going on here is really problematic. If students don't buy the fact that

*see **Coalition**, page 2*

Dolan, Long to head Student Assembly after uncontested election

Election is not protested, despite election rule violations

by Emma Furman '07
NEWS WRITER

Elizabeth Dolan and Jeff Long were elected on Wednesday, December 3rd, as Student Assembly president and vice president, respectively. The pair ran unchallenged on the ballot as students voted in Beinecke on Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Both the new president and vice president are currently juniors and were the only ones qualified by the Student Assembly to run for these positions, resulting in the unopposed election.

The qualifications imposed on elections were new this year and were the result of a new amendment to the Student Assembly constitution that just went into effect. This amendment now requires that presidential candidates have their attendance recorded at at least eight Central Council Meetings. According to Philip Hadji, the Chair of the Student Assembly Elections Committee, this amendment "greatly limited the number of people that are eligible for the position and resulted in an election with less candidates running than normal."

After the polls closed at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, the ballot box was locked in the office of the Director of Student Activities, and a twenty-four hour period began, during which students were allowed to protest the election. Students could have protested for a variety of reasons, including illegal placement of campaign materials on the day of elections; however, there were no protests submitted this year.

On the following day at 4 p.m., even though there was only one team of candidates running, the ballots were counted in Bristol Campus Center, and Elizabeth Dolan and Jeff Long were declared the winners of the election.

The pair ran on a platform of "strong commitment to the College, the desire to lead, and dedication to positive change within our community." They also stated in their platform that they would "work to promote and galvanize the interests of the students, and are determined to revolutionize the role of Student Assembly President and Vice Presi-

*see **Dolan**, page 2*

Measles Initiative raises money to vaccinate children

by Kristy Hague '05
NEWS WRITER

Working in conjunction with the Utica chapter of the American Red Cross, the Hamilton College Red Cross Campus Club has been raising money for the Measles Initiative over the course of this week. Measles is the most preventable disease that kills the most children in Africa.

The monetary contribution of Hamilton students represents a small fraction of the international Measles Initiative. The Center for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF all work with the Red Cross to vaccinate people against this disease.

At Hamilton, "students should get involved because this represents a real opportunity for youth to help other youths," said project head Haley Reimbold '06.

For every dollar donated, a child will be vaccinated. The Hamilton chapter of the Red Cross raised about $200 last year and they are striving to beat last year's totals. Student Red Cross representatives asked for donations in Beinecke all this week and held a benefit concert on Thursday night. The concert featured local band, Eighteen String Thing, and was free to the Hamilton community although donations were encouraged. In addition to asking for donations, the campus chapter sold raffle tickets for the Utica chapter's fundraiser. For $50, a person could enter a lottery to win a new car. The Initiative received a boost from Kappa Sigma Alpha, which donated $50. Additionally, the Office of the President

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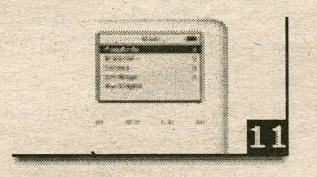

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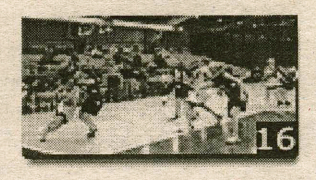

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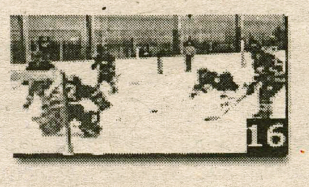


Panel of 1968 graduates sheds light on life at Hamilton

by Katie Jones '07
NEWS WRITER

A panel discussion including Stephen Fuchs, Stuart Horowitz, Lawrence Kerr and John Oats, all members of Hamilton's Class of 1968, was held in the Events Barn on Wednesday, December 3. The panel was held as part of Sophomore Seminar 285: 1968: Students In Revolt, and was cosponsored by the Kirkland Project for the Study of Gender, Society and Culture. Discussion topics ranged from the effect of the compulsory military draft, to the social scene on campus, all attempting to paint an accurate picture of Hamilton College in the late 1960's.

"This particular year [1968] is a crucial one in the history of many nations," said professor Esther Kanipe, who teaches a section of the sophomore seminar and acted as the panel moderator. "In the USA, it was the year of the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy, the turning point in American public support from supporting the war in Vietnam to questioning that war, a part of a time of intense political, social, personal and artistic experimentation."

The panelists painted a picture of Hamilton in 1968 has almost no resemblance to the modern institution. Hamilton was still an all-male school, there was compulsory chapel attendance and students were required to wear neckties to dinner in Commons. Although time has changed Hamilton, many of the issues introduced in the forum still apply to the Hamilton students today.

One topic that was emphasized in the discussion was the relative seclusion of the College in the turbulent period between the 1950s and the 1970s. Even in 1968, when massive student movements at U.C. Berkeley and Columbia University were shaking up the academic world, Hamilton remained very conservative.

"For me, Hamilton in 1968 and the years leading up to 1968 was a place marked by isolation, insulation and intellectual intensity," said Fuchs. "The problems of the world were really far away."

The panelists all emphasized that, while Hamilton students were not particularly involved in "the movement" against the Vietnam War, they were gaining valuable education for the future.

"During my time at Hamilton, my goal was to become as educated as I could be so that I could tackle the problems of the world later on," said Kerr. "Some of the idealism of the time was largely artificial and it is difficult to become radicalized without knowing all about what was happening."

Price agreed, asserting that

*see **Panelists**, page 4*

Coalition on Alcohol to report recomendations to Stewart on March 15

*from **Stewart**, page 1*

this is a problem, it will be more difficult to solve the problem," he said.

Hamilton's renewed efforts to curb the negative effects of excessive alcohol consumption come in the wake of a revived national interest in the problem. The Harvard University of Public Health recently completed the "College Alcohol Study," a comprehensive survey of 14,000 students at 120 four-year colleges located in forty states. Alongside a host of statistics relating to alcohol abuse, the Harvard study determined that 44% of college students nationally drink heavily from time to time.

Additionally, Bucknell University President Steffen Rogers recently declared that emergency measures needed to be taken at the school. In an open letter dated November 18, Rogers outlined the issues stemming from alcohol-related incidents, including the hospitalization of twenty-four students for alcohol poisoning since the start of the academic year. Violent incidents relating to alcohol were reported as well as the involvement of nine students in DUI cases. As a result of these and other aggressive acts of vandalism and home invasions, the president instituted emergency measures.

"I am therefore directing the immediate implementation of a policy designed to remove students from campus who have committed egregious acts involving alcohol. Whether that removal will consist of a suspension of no less than one year, or permanent expulsion, will depend upon the facts established to my satisfaction," he wrote in his letter.

Hamilton administrators are aware of the breadth of the problem.

"There are a lot of schools experiencing what we're experiencing," said Lisa Magnarelli, Director of Student Activities.

Nancy Thompson echoed this point: "Alcohol and college students– it's a long-standing relationship. [As a result], our goals are to make measurable reductions in the negative aspects. We are looking to improve the experience here– both social and educational."

Still in its beginning stage, the Coalition has met every Tuesday for one hour. Coalition member Robbie Wang '05 commented that "although we only meet once a week for an hour, I think we are moving along very well. We have had enough time to discuss various issues and ideas to the point where I feel every thought has been brought to the table. Now we have over three months to iron out the details of what exactly is the best thing to do."

Integral to the formula is the participation and input of the student body, a belief that the Coalition strongly adheres to. Kazin calls student participation "crucial." The upcoming ISC Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, December 9, is an opportunity for the community to gather and discuss the issue at hand. Though still in the early stages of planning, the Adler Conference may also be used as a forum to discuss alcohol issues on campus.

What may follow are focus groups and direct communication with students in dining halls and dorms. The Coalition on Alcohol urges students to participate and voice their feelings in the upcoming forums and panel discussions.

Dolan, Long win

Duo will take office first day of spring semester

*from **Dolan**, page 1*

dent."

Both candidates are supported by an impressive list of credentials; however, they did not have specific goals for the students of Hamilton College and the Student Assembly outlined in their platform. Dolan is presently president of the Class of 2005, a position she has held for two years. She has also served on Student Assembly for three terms. Dolan has held positions in the Inter-Society Council, HAVOC, and Adirondack Adventure. Dolan and Long will take their offices as president and vice president on the first day of the spring semester.

Several different measures were taken to ensure fair elections, even though there was only one pair of candidates running. These measures included the announcement of the elections at least three weeks prior to their occurrence, as well as the publication of the candidates' platforms in *The Spectator*, ensuring that all students on campus could have easy access to them.

Additionally, two members of Student Assembly were required to sit at the polls to collect ballots and oversee voting; however, at times during voting there was only one representative present.

Student ID cards were also supposed to be required to vote; however, few students were asked for their photo identification. Most students were allowed to vote after just giving their names and class years.

Both the failure to ask for proper Hamilton identification and the failure to meet the supervision quota are grounds for a legitimate election challenge. Because no protests were raised during the twenty-four hour period following the election, though, the results of Wednesday's election will stand.

Although the candidates' platforms were published in last week's edition of *The Spectator*, the elections themselves were not well publicized. Many students did not even know that they were going on, and some even walked by the polls on Wednesday, unaware of what the vote was for.

Injured bus driver led to cancellation of bus service for November TDX party

by Erin Weaver '05
NEWS WRITER

Theta Delta Chi's (TDX) biannual Nothin' Fancy party is often awarded "Best Party of the Year" status by Hamilton's party-goers. Yet blizzard-like conditions and bus service complications derailed this semester's installment. On Thursday, November 13th, Hamilton's campus was slammed by heavy snowfall as students waited in North Lot to be transported by bus to the Nothin' Fancy Café in Vernon. The combination of freezing temperatures and anxious ticket-holders proved hazardous for the bus drivers and their vehicles.

Dan Worth '05, President of TDX, explained: "Of the three drivers, there was one that had only been driving a bus for like three months or so, and this was her first storm to drive through. At like 10:00, I ended up getting the call from somebody that was waiting at North Lot. They were like 'There's like eighty people here at North Lot and they're refusing to let any of the buses go—what's happening?' They thought it was all the weather."

The weather was indeed not the cause of the problem.

Jesse Gaylord '06 described the scene: "It was frigid outside; everyone was eager to get on the buses, and there was confusion about how many buses there were . When the first bus arrived, there was a rush. In the rush, which was crazy, the door was broken, so it couldn't close, it was at this time that the second bus rolled up, and everybody rushed over there. Then the bus driver [of the first bus] got excruciatingly mad."

Worth continued: "Apparently, there was a hoard of people that were just wearing flip flops out there, a lot of people really drunk before, and they were really ready to get on the bus when it showed up to North Lot. So, apparently, they just rushed the bus, and this is a forty-some-odd passenger bus and there's eighty people rushing the bus. The bus driver closed the door and, apparently they broke down the door. I was told the emergency door, so I'm guessing the back door... So another bus ended up pulling up, everybody rushed to the other bus, and the same type of thing…apparently there was some type of injury with the bus driver, she just got crammed by everybody… [she suffered two fractured ribs."

Dan Briggs '05 witnessed the stampede and the havoc that ensued: "I was on the bus that broke. Kids rushed the front door—it broke. The bus driver freaked out and kicked us off, so we ran to the other bus. It filled up but he took us anyway. The [driver] that kicked us off her bus tried to ruin the party for everyone—she ran up to the other bus driver and said that we couldn't leave. Our new bus driver yelled: 'You aren't my superior and I'm taking these kids to the party!' He was all pumped up. The roads were terrible, but we could have cared less."

After the damage inflicted upon the first bus and its driver, the bus service refused to continue service to Nothin' Fancy, leaving a number of students in North Lot, unable to get to Vernon.

Worth returned to campus after being informed of the issue in North Lot. He explained the bus service cancellation and its consequences: "I got a ride back to campus and there was like five Kirkland police cars here [North Lot] and the bus drivers were in the police cars. They were not willing to talk to me at all. I was just trying to get a hold of the manager's number so I could figure out what happened. They [the bus drivers] refused to even talk to me about what happened."

Worth elaborated on the makeshift transportation system created in lieu of the buses: "There were three of us [TDX brothers] that got cars and were shuttling people, but there was probably like 200 people there already. Everybody was enjoying themselves, nobody really had a concern when they were there, except for maybe five brothers who were trying to settle the situation. We called all the bus services and transportation services in Utica, Syracuse, anything that was around the area, but it was 11:00 at night and

*see **Nothin' Fancy**, page 4*

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Teacher Tells Kids Santa is 'Make-Believe.'

MIRAMAR, Florida (AP) — Mrs. Jolly thinks her son's teacher is a Grinch.

Sandra Jolly said her 6-year-old son's Christmas was spoiled when his teacher told the first-grade class Monday that "Santa Claus is make-believe."

"He had this sad, lost puppy dog look on his face. This unhappy, empty look," Jolly said. "He said his teacher informed the entire class that Santa is make-believe."

D.J.'s teacher, Geneta Codner, was reading a story about the Tooth Fairy when the class started discussing what was real and what was not, said district spokesman Joe Donzelli.

When the subject of Santa came up, the teacher started questioning parts of his story — How could a fat jolly man fit down a chimney? How could reindeer fly around the world in one night? — and told the children that wasn't possible.

"It's all been blown out of proportion," Codner said. "I'm sorry (parents) think I meant it that way. We were just having a discussion. I don't know where all this hurt came from."

The teacher said none of the children acted upset or sad during class.

But Jolly and others disagree.

"How do you destroy a 6-year-old like that?" said Pam Sturt, whose son Bradley is in D.J.'s class.

Donzelli said the school's principal "had a real stern conversation" with the teacher. But there will be no written reprimand because she did not violate any school district policy.

"We have no Santa clause," Donzelli said. "We would think that teachers would use better judgment."

Parents Having Their Say on Campus

(AP) — Susan Jennings Lantz recalls just how involved her mom and dad were in her education at West Virginia University during the 1980s.

"My parents dropped me off, waved goodbye and that was that," she says.

Things are different today, as Lantz is well aware. As WVU's parent advocate — a salaried position at the Morgantown school — Lantz fields up to 4,000 calls a year to the school's Parents Club Helpline, asking about everything from roommate problems to transportation glitches to billing questions.

Like other educators and college administrators, she sees parents taking an increasingly activist role on campuses across the country. One nonprofit group, College Parents of America, is in the early stages of a membership campaign aimed at mimicking the growth and lobbying success of AARP.

Many parents figure that if they're spending thousands of dollars on their child's education, they ought to have a voice, experts say. But there's more, says Lantz.

"These were the first kids to get the 'Baby on Board' signs," she says. "Their parents have been very active with them in elementary, middle and high school. They are soccer moms who aren't ready to release.

"It's not just the parents that are involved, a lot of students want their parents involved, too."

Communicating 'every step of the way'

This summer, Jim Boyle became president of College Parents of America with the goal of raising the profile of the 900-member group, not quite a decade old, by increasing membership and lobbying.

For fees ranging from $18 to $26, Boyle intends for the group to provide an array of services, including answering questions for the parents of middle and high school students about college savings, financial aid and applications. In the style of the AARP, Boyle envisions his organization lobbying Congress on issues such as tuition tax credits.

The group is also working to provide parents of college students material on topics ranging from binge drinking to credit card abuse.

"A growing number of schools understand that a parent simply going away once they drop their child off at school is not an option anymore," Boyle says.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Egypt Urges Palestinians to Reach Truce

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Palestinian factions opened talks Thursday aimed at producing a cease-fire, and Israel hinted it could reduce military activity in the West Bank and Gaza Strip if a truce were declared.

Egypt is mediating the talks, and Egyptian intelligence chief Gen. Omar Suleiman opened the session by urging the Palestinians to agree to a total cease-fire conditioned on Israeli reciprocity, Palestinian delegates at the closed-door meeting said.

Suleiman told delegates the United States was eager for a breakthrough next year - an election year. The Egyptian intelligence boss also said an accord now could further feed opposition among Israelis to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's policies, one delegate said, insisting on anonymity.

"It is possible to take advantage of these conditions to come up with a cease-fire that the Israeli side will feel compelled to commit to," Suleiman was quoted as saying. "This requires that the groups think about the political moves to stop the aggression against the Palestinian people."

After Suleiman spoke, representatives of a dozen Palestinian factions began meetings among themselves, with Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia set to join the talks at a later stage.

Powell Hopeful on NATO Role in Iraq

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Sensing a shift in European opinion, Secretary of State Colin Powell said Thursday he sees hope of greater NATO willingness to take on an expanded role in Iraq at some point.

For now, he said, the NATO consensus appears to be that the alliance should first put in place a plan for an expansion of its role in Afghanistan, from the capital Kabul to one or more provinces.

NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson told reporters before Powell spoke that no country is promoting a proposal for an increased alliance role in Iraq. But, Robertson added, "Nobody is excluding it."

Powell raised the issue of Iraq in a morning address to NATO foreign ministers and told a news conference later that he was surprised during the course of the day when "not a single member spoke against it or talked about reasons not to do it."

The United States suggested an expanded NATO role in Iraq as far back as a year ago, months before the war, but encountered stiff resistance, particularly from France and Germany.

Powell has pushed the issue over the telephone and at international conferences since then, but with little positive feedback.

U.S. Seeks to Cut Off Money to Guerrillas

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A spate of U.S. raids on Iraqi smugglers signals a new strategy to deny the guerrilla insurgency one of its chief recruiting assets: money. If U.S. military strategists are correct, the insurgency will soon face a financial crisis when old Iraqi dinar notes bearing the face of Saddam Hussein will be worthless. The military wants to deepen the crisis by launching raids on black marketeers thought to be funding the guerrilla movement.

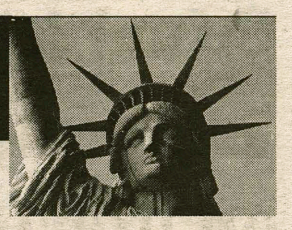
"If we can stop the money, we can stop the insurgency," a coalition military official in Baghdad told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity. Because many strikes are carried out by hired attackers, he said Thursday, the United States is going after the "paymasters."

The insurgency's need for funds was highlighted by coordinated attacks in Samarra, where bands of guerrillas laid in wait at two banks awaiting the delivery of dinars - setting off firefights with U.S. troops that claimed dozens of Iraqi lives.

The guerrillas are thought to be funding the insurgency with the former regime's stockpiles of old dinar notes, or by counterfeiting the relatively simple Saddam notes, which are now being exchanged for new, Saddam-free notes.

In Washington, a U.S. defense official speaking on condition of anonymity said the money changeover is expected to inhibit guerrilla operations that rely on paying attackers for bombings and hits on U.S. troops.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

$5M Bail Set in N.D. Missing Student Case

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — The man charged in the kidnapping of a North Dakota college student was ordered held on $5 million bail Thursday after his lawyer said he wanted to stay behind bars for his own safety.

As Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 50, appeared in court, law officers in two states continued the search for 22-year-old Dru Sjodin, missing since she left work at a Victoria's Secret at a Grand Forks mall on Nov. 22.

Rodriguez, a convicted rapist who had been classified as the most dangerous type of sex offender, appeared at his bail hearing with a brown parka over orange jail clothes. He spoke briefly to acknowledge that he understood the charges against him, but was not asked to enter a plea.

Prosecutor Rick Brown said he asked for the $5 million bail because Rodriguez does not have deep ties to the community and because there is a strong chance he could commit more crimes.

"We feel that this case represents a very classic case of danger," he said.

Defense attorney David Dusek said Rodriguez "agreed that for his safety he should remain in custody."

Bush Lifts 20-Month-Old Tariffs on Steel

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Thursday scrapped import tariffs he had imposed last year to help the battered U.S. steel industry, defusing a threatened trade war with Europe and Japan but creating political problems for himself in states that could be key in next year's election.

The president declared that the 21 months the steep tariffs had been in place had given the U.S. industry a chance to consolidate and modernize and were no longer needed as a result of "changed economic circumstances."

However, the decision prompted an angry response from the steel industry and its political supporters, who accused Bush of breaking a campaign promise and turning his back on an industry that was still in need of protection from unfair foreign competition.

"In his rush to appease the Europeans and the Japanese, Mr. Bush willfully ignored the fact that damage to the American steel industry and American steel communities continues to this day," said Leo W. Gerard, president of the United Steelworkers of America.

Warrants: Limbaugh Was 'Doctor Shopping'

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Investigators who raided the offices of Rush Limbaugh's doctors said in search warrants filed Thursday that the conservative radio commentator engaged in illegal drug use and "doctor shopping" for prescription painkillers.

AP

The warrants - which name four doctors and several prescription drugs - show investigators were looking for records including prescription disbursements, appointment schedules, receipts and a medical questionnaire when they raided the offices Nov. 25.

"Mr. Limbaugh's actions violate the letter, and spirit" of the law that relates to doctor shopping, stated one of warrants, signed by Asim Brown, a law enforcement agent assigned to the state attorney's office anti-money laundering task force. Doctor shopping refers to looking for a doctor willing to prescribe drugs illegally.

Limbaugh denied any wrongdoing to listeners on his radio show earlier Thursday and accused prosecutors in Palm Beach County of going on a "fishing expedition."

Reading from a statement prepared by his attorney Roy Black, Limbaugh denied any wrongdoing and said the medical records will clear him.

"What these records show is that Mr. Limbaugh suffered extreme pain and had legitimate reasons for taking pain medication," Limbaugh said. "Unfortunately, because of Mr. Limbaugh's prominence and well-known political opinions, he is being subjected to an invasion of privacy no citizen of this republic should endure."

State Attorney Barry Krischer said in a statement that Limbaugh's rights have been "scrupulously protected."

Murphy doesn't expect to particpate in search for new coach

*from **Murphy**, page 1*

since 1974-75, tallying 571 wins and a mere 192 losses over that time.

"It was rewarding. It was a lot of fun watching the program grow," Murphy said.

Under Murphy, the Continentals have frequently ranked among the top ten Division III teams in the nation. In the 1990-91 season, he led the team to a 26-1 record and a #1 ranking in the final NCAA Division III poll.

"Winning is the byproduct of doing things the right way. When you do things the right way and then add up the wins and losses, it seems to take care of itself," Murphy said.

The Hamilton community and others watching the program over the years have become accustomed to winning. Murphy's teams have won ten Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships. Additionally, Murphy has coached twelve players who received All-American honors.

Personally, Murphy has collected numerous distinctions and awards. He was named the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Division III Coach of the Year twice, for the 1978-79 and 1990-91 seasons, and the NABC East Region Coach of the Year for the 1982-83 and 2002-03 seasons. In recent years, Murphy was named the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year in 1999, 2000 and 2003. In perhaps his most momentous personal achievement, Murphy was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame in 1998.

In addition to his role as men's basketball coach, Murphy held the position of Hamilton College Athletic Director for twenty-two years, from 1980 until 2002. Although he enjoyed heading up athletics at the College, Murphy stated that coaching was always his favorite part of his job.

"When you're coaching, you're dealing with your own problems. When you're athletic director, you're dealing with other people's problems," Murphy said.

Describing the relationships he developed with his players, Murphy commented on the importance of team chemistry. He repeatedly stated that his players were all "good kids" and that they understood their priorities. Murphy stated that he does not judge the success of a team until ten years after its members have graduated, when he can see how successful his former players have become in life. Murphy said that on an average day, six or seven different players call him to see how he's doing and to check up on the team and the College. Murphy describes the relationships he has developed with his players and that his players have developed with each other as his greatest accomplishment.

Murphy was positive about this year's squad, calling them "exciting." He expressed concern about their depth and size, but believed these impediments can be overcome.

A search for Murphy's replacement will begin in the spring. Murphy expressed that he would like to participate in the search, but he does not believe that will be the case. Athletic Director David Thompson could not be reached Thursday afternoon for comment on the future search process.

Panelists highlight lack of activism at Hamilton in 60's

*from **Panel**, page 2*

"Hamilton students [from 1968] should not be regarded as apathetic; we were just learning about the world. Ours was a quieter, more studious approach."

The audience asked a wide range of questions dealing with the draft and the way that the Vietnam War affected students of the time. Panelists compared student response to the current war in Iraq to the student response in 1968 to the Vietnam War.

"Hamilton was a very conservative place," said Horowitz. "More people were willing to trust in the government. It took years to get that trust beaten out of you. In general, people today are much more willing to question the government."

Student movements, like those at larger universities, also did not happen at Hamilton because of the small size of the student body and the closeness of the students to the administration.

"The administration was very in touch with students," said Horowitz. "Hamilton had the kind of intimacy that couldn't exist in larger places. It was a very cozy place"

While the isolation did not help the social lives of the Hamilton men, it did provide a great place to study. All of the panelists emphasized the seriousness with which students approached their studies. They agreed that Hamilton taught them how to speak and how to learn effectively, as well as how to think critically.

Much of the social life at Hamilton during the 1960s was centered on drinking and fraternities. Dates were also difficult to come by because of the geographic isolation and the fact that students weren't allowed to have cars.

"This was an all-male school in the middle of nowhere," said Fuchs. "If you haven't lived through it you cannot imagine what that means. The house party weekends involved a blind date who arrived [at] noon on Friday and who, by 12:10, you realized that you had very little in common with."

Mixer dances were held so that students from Hamilton could meet students from women's colleges. The panelists described them as mad scrambles to meet someone to spend the rest of the weekend with.

"It was sometimes kind of a meat market," said Oats. "It was not a normal place."

Overall, the panelists all looked back on their time on the Hill very affectionately.

"I'm very glad to be back here and I don't think that my time at Hamilton was an experience that I would have traded for much of anything else," Oats concluded.

Red Cross Club hopes to beat last year's total in Measles Initiative

*from **Measles**, page 1*

and HAVOC helped supported the effort.

After all the funds are raised, HAVOC will write a check to the Utica chapter of the Red Cross and the Utica chapter will send the money to Washington, D.C. From D.C., the money will purchase the inoculations, which will be sent over to specific areas in Africa. 100% of the donations will go directly to purchasing the vaccinations.

"This is such an effective campaign because it takes so little effort and so little money to save a life," notes Reimbold. "People complain that Hamilton is trapped in a little bubble that is isolated from the local community but we are even more isolated from the international community. The Measles Initiative is an opportunity to change the isolation," elaborated Reimbold.

"It really is effortless...all you have to do is donate some money on the way to check your mail. I don't know why more students don't donate," remarked one junior girl. Donations are still being accepted and can be sent through campus mail. Checks should be made out to the American Red Cross and donators should write "Measles Initiative" in the memo. Envelopes sent through campus mail can be addressed to HAVOC.

In addition to the Measles Initiative, the Red Cross Campus Club will hold many other events in the coming months, including recertification courses in CPR, a disaster training course which teaches people how to react and save lives in natural disasters, and a Home Alone course which teaches children how to behave when they are home alone. All these courses yield nationally recognized certifications. Also, the campus chapter is developing a college network with other schools in order to generate more ideas for fundraising and for getting more students involved.

Last month's Nothin' Fancy Party thwarted by snow, unruly behavior

*from **Injured**, page 2*

nobody could really do anything. We ended up having to call taxis, and by this time it was like 12:00, 12:30, and I just went up to the stage and told the band to stop and told everybody the party was over. I thought we were going to be shuttling people back to campus until like 7:00 in the morning, but it ended up only being like 3:30 or so, but it ended up ending half an hour to an hou: earlier than expected."

Andrew DeCastro '05 did not attend the party, but picked up some of his friends when the party was over.

"I was woken up at 1:30 a.m. I had to drive and pick up five of my buddies. At some point I had to stop on the side of the road because there was zero visibility. I picked them up at a gas station because they didn't want me to pick them up at the party—they were afraid people would trash my car. People were leaving and trying to cram into other people's cars to get home. It was like a riot," DeCastro said.

Despite the debacle in North Lot and the severe weather conditions, 200 to 250 people made it to their destination, a figure constituting half of those expected.

The important question of accountability remains, as does the question of how the problems of this particular event will affect future off-campus parties.

Worth blamed the bus company: "I think the bus company realizes that it was their fault. We had a contract with them that they had to drive throughout the night once they started, and they realized that it was their mistake, they completely messed up."

TDX Brother James Crowley '05 remarked: "It definitely will [affect parties in the future]. I think we were a little naïve. The bus scene before parties is always very chaotic and I think that it was naïve of us not to put someone on the bus to help regulate with the bus driver. To put the responsibility on the bus driver for keeping the buses under their maximum capacity or anything like that will definitely change, and no more having buses in North Lot during blizzards."

Worth admitted that certain pre-party issues could have been handled differently: "The issue of the roads…we should have dealt with it differently, unfortunately. I talked to Lisa Magnarelli about it after, and if we thought of it before, we probably would have brought all the buses to ELS, and in that case people could have waited inside. I didn't have very good contact with Lisa or with Campus Safety, but that's what we could have done, I guess, for the future. But the thing is that there were 100, 120 people waiting in North Lot—I doubt ELS could handle it. I thought about that beforehand, it just didn't seem like it would have been the best situation."

Ticket refunds for those who could not get to the party was also an issue. In an e-mail sent on Friday, November14th, Worth wrote: announced that those who did not make it to Nothin' Fancy and who had purchased a ticket would be able to obtain a refund.

Crowley said: "We're tentatively about to be in a lawsuit with the person because of the bus driver's ribs. She was injured—she had fractured ribs. We can't pay full refunds because we're going to have to pay for this lady's health insurance. So, what I'd like to do is just tell people they can hold on to their tickets and get free admission to the next Nothin' Fancy or something like that, but it's all up in the air because we don't really know what's going on."

Worth remains hopeful that the events of the 13th will help change social policies regarding off-campus parties: "So far we've been so limited, especially with these on-campus parties and the third party vendors, so it's really rough on campus. I've even talked to Wayne Gentile, and he'd rather have us have parties off campus—it's so much easier on campus for his crew. So, off-campus parties still have to happen, the School can't really stop anyone from doing that. I think there has to be better communication between the societies that are throwing off campus parties and the School. Our biggest concern is that people screw up things for the majority of the rest of people."

Worth and Crowley both expressed their disappointment and displeasure with the event, as well as their frustration with the situation in general.

The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

President's Stewart's recent reconstitution of the Coalition on Alcohol is addressing an issue that plagues our campus: the irresponsible consumption of alcohol by Hamilton students. The administration should be looking at the issue because it directly affects the quality of life of students on the Hill, not to mention their safety. Too many people around the country die every year from alcohol related incidents. If used appropriately, the Coalition on Alcohol can benefit those who choose to consume alcohol on campus and will even benefit those who choose not to. The administration and the Coalition should be praised in advance for their future efforts to curtail a problem that cannot be solved overnight.

If used improperly, however, the Coalition can very easily impede upon the rights of students on campus that choose to drink. Finding an adequate middle ground in any new policies is crucial. A stance that is too strong can prevent students from enjoying the social aspects of college life. Nobody is suggesting that students be allowed to run rampant and send themselves to the hospital with no intervention by the College. We support enforcement of current policies that hold students accountable for their actions. Accountability is key in the maturing process of young adults. Students must learn that they will be held accountable for their actions. Yet it must be remembered that Hamilton College is not a convent, nor is it a pre-school. The students of the College are adults, and as adults, have a great deal of responsibility for their own actions. Students have not always made the best decisions concerning the consumption of alcohol, but this is by no means grounds for removing the ability to make similar decisions in the future. College is not only a time to learn academically, but a time when young adults must develop social responsibility by making difficult social decisions.

Of secondary concern is the threat posed to Hamilton's already diminished social life. The 1995 Residential Life Decision turned Hamilton, once a "party school," into a more academically-focused institution. It has had many benefits for the College which consequently benefit every student who attends. Yet it is foolish not to acknowledge that the College currently has an extremely inadequate array of social options for students to partake in. Options have slowly, but surely, been taken away. In 1995 the houses were taken. Several years ago North Court was taken, as well. New rules regarding third party caterers limits the amount of parties that can be held on campus. Not every private society, let alone other organizations with less financial resources, can afford to pay the expensive fees charged by these caterers. Yet what has the College done to make up for there usurpation of campus social options? Two or three bands and comedians PER YEAR is an extremely inadequate attempt to make up for the culture lacking in Hamilton's natural surroundings. Thus, perhaps the problems with alcohol abuse on campus have their origins in places not necessarily expected. The steady erosion of social options without the implementation of new ones has eliminated Hamilton's label as a "party school"; however, it has replaced this label with that of a "drinking school." Did anyone ever think that the lack of social options has literally driven students to drink? This possibility is not so far fetched.

So please, members of the Coalition on Alcohol, remember what the student body is up against. Respect our rights as adults to make adult decisions, and remember that stricter enforcement of alcohol policies without the broadening of social options will do no good. Such an approach would tell students that the College is not interested in presenting them with viable alternatives to drinking, only in punishing them for partaking in one of the only activities available to them.

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●1:05●3:10▲5:15-7:20-9:25 DTS PG
ELF ●12:20●2:30▲4:50-7:10-9:15 WILL FERRELL PG
BAD SANTA ●1:10●3:25▲5:30-7:40-9:55 R
MASTER & COMMANDER: RUSSELL CROWE PG-13
THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD ●1:25▲4:10-7:00-9:40
TOMMY LEE JONES - CATE BLANCHETT
THE MISSING ●1:35▲4:20-7:05-9:45 R
TIMELINE ●12:30●2:50▲5:10-7:30-9:50 PG-13
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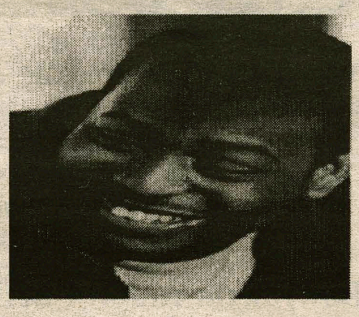
Schedule adjustment time will begin on Friday, December 5th, at 8:30 a.m. and continue through 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12th. Students can register through web advisor for any open courses. Students may not resister for a fifth class at this time.

Community vigil/open discussion for World AIDS Day on Sat. December 6th at 4:30 p.m. in Cafe Opus.

His smile says a lot about you.



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Insights and Ideas

Come on Clinton: sharing hookups on the Hill

by Klitora Kirkland (Sarah Schwartz '04)

and Phallixander Hamilton (Dan Fiore '04)

DISCLAMER: The purpose of Come on Clinton is to discuss sex and sex related issues at Hamilton College in a light-hearted, non-judgmental, responsible way, with the goal of creating a publicized dialogue regarding issues that are often discussed by and impact the student body. Due to the liberal nature of the column, some may find the content inappropriate or offensive. Reader discretion is advised.

On a particularly windy December afternoon, Phallix and Klitora decided to make the trek across campus to the gym (to maintain their supermodelesque figures). As they left the suites, Klitora passed a young man that she had hooked up with last year. Walking right next to him (clearly on her way to engage in some activities frowned upon by Hamilton alumni) was a lovely young lady who had platonically made out with Phallix on several occasions.

Klitora and Phallix looked at each other and then at the oncoming couple who returned their gaze. The four realized that they had all hooked up with each other. Phallix immediately reached for his Marlboro Ultra Lites (he's trying to quit) to alleviate the awkwardness. This situation occurred between Phallix and Klitora and four other couples on their way to the gym.

Everyone is familiar with the incestuous landscape of Hamilton College, and even freshmen know that everyone has hooked up with everyone by six degrees of separation (and this includes Professors).

That's right people - you're all in some way connected to both Phallix and Klitora (lucky you). While your mothers most likely taught you all the importance of sharing at an early age, does that concept translate to the hook up scene? With the unavoidable incest of the Hamilton college hookup scene in mind, Phallix and Klitora couldn't help but wonder: when is it OK to hook up with your friend's ex?

When It's an Ex

Dating or hooking up with your friend's ex can be sticky business, especially if your friend was dumped because of you. In addition to the usual weirdness, there's an element of jealousy and competition at play: *What does he/she have that I don't?* And if the ex-relationship was a long one, what are the rules to abide by? It seems that there must be a grace period, that is, an amount of time between relationships, during which feelings can cool down.

If you pounce on your friend's ex right from the get-go, you may be entering the realm of cruelty, or even worse, the realm of utter tackiness. Just think of 90210: we all judged Kelly and Dylan quite a bit when they got together behind Brenda's back, didn't we?

At the same time, one senior lady points out that "It's more acceptable for a guy to hook up with his friend's ex than for a girl to hook up with her friend's ex, because women are more likely to get their emotions involved." Had Kelly and Brenda been two men, we may have seen the situation in a different light.

It's important to be aware of your friend's feelings in regards to his or her ex, and to be conscious of the fact that your friendship might be seriously altered by your actions.

But this is all obvious stuff, right? What about some other, more conniving strategies like lying to your friend and meeting his or her ex for secret rendezvous? This may be fun for a while, but it's ultimately impossible at a place like Hamilton. Let's face it, we *ALL* knew when Gene Tobin finally gave into Phallix and Klitora and let them bathe him in the Reservoir – and we did everything possible to keep that under wraps! Trying to maintain a new relationship with a friend's ex at Hamilton is almost as hard as Phallix after watching an episode of TRL.

When It's an Ex-Hookup

If the object of your affection is not a friend's ex-boyfriend, but rather just someone your friend has previously hooked up with, the situation changes. One experimental senior dark-sider says that "if he's a friend's ex-boyfriend, then no; if he's a friend's ex-hook up, then oh yeah!"

However, the feelings of those involved in ex-hookups (including your own) still need to be considered. Last December, Klitora made the ugly mistake of hooking up with one of her dearest friend's ex-hookups. While all has been forgiven, the stain of deceit still burns like the scarlet letter on Klit's chest. The truth was that neither Klitora nor her dear friend had feelings for this gentleman, so the issue was not tied to love or passion. It was merely decidedly bad taste for Klitora to do this, thus setting up an awkward and unnecessary situation.

While it's easy to judge someone for hooking up with a friend's ex, most of us will find ourselves in this tempting scenario. A sexy junior male comments, "It's not really okay, but I did it anyway." If you do not have feelings for someone that your friend has hooked up with, there is really no reason to hook up with this person – you are simply engaging in an incestuous orgy with your friend, which will make you butt-clenchingly uncomfortable in his or her presence.

Why create a sticky situation with a friend by hooking up with their ex when you can just as easily satisfy yourself in the comfort of your own room, free of physical and emotional baggage?

Level of Looooove

Love can be involved in one-time hookups and absent from long-term relationships, so going by labels of "seriousness" is not always useful in deciding when it's safe to step in. Let's say your friend was with a significant other for a year, but he or she did nothing but complain and repeatedly cheated on his or her significant other.

Is it wrong to try your luck with this ex? Possibly, but a friend would more likely be upset if the person in question was someone they still have legitimate feelings for, regardless of the length of the relationship.

What about your friend who has hooked up with someone once and been smitten ever since? Stepping in might actually be worse in this scenario, because even if your friend has no chance of hooking up with this tiger ever again, he or she may be very hurt if you try to.

A senior male stated that "it doesn't matter if your friend dated or hooked up with the person, what matters is how much they like them." While nothing has happened between Phallix and J.T. (yet), he would still cut Klitora off if she were to try to rock J.T.'s body without discussing it with her sex-column partner first.

Hooking up with a friend's ex is a sticky situation. It's important to consider the feelings of everyone involved before trying on your friend's dirty clothes. People have a tendency to claim ownerships over their past lovers, and if your friendship is more important to you than a sordid little one night stand, keep that in mind before you take off your clothes. And if you find yourself in a sticky situation with a friend's ex-whatever, remember to keep your head up, you've got Phallix and Klitora behind you, and sometimes under you.

Contact the Health Center @ x4111 with any health concerns. They've got free condoms on tap.
Contact the Counseling Center @ x4340 if you need to talk to a professional. Protect yourself, physically and emotionally!

* QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS? WANT TO BE SINGLE OF THE WEEK? FEEL FREE TO E-MAIL DFIORE or SSCHWART!

Thumbs Up

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- ... We're a week away from finals... there's nothing good going on.

Thumbs Down

- Downtown robbery improving already superb Town-Gown relations.

- On the first day of Christmas, Campus Safety gave to me... A $150 towing fee.

- Sorority Bowl on the radio - Cut the intellectual stuff, we just want to see you get naked.

- Piling work on the upperclassmen... just because the freshman are smart doesn't mean we are.

- The food supply in Commons being sparser than Communist Russia.

- Checking away messages and getting a virus worse than AIDS as a result.

Nakul Patel '05, Peyton Gray '05,
Avery Schlicher '05, Deirdre Fenton '04

Who Cares?

- Voting for Student Assembly President and Vice President: Dolan and Long win by a nose.

- Official Sex Day on Saturday... it's Unofficial Sex Day the other 51 Saturdays of the year.

- The Alcohol Coalition... first kid to the bottom of a 40 gets the door prize.

- Commons handing out card vouchers almost as often as Campus Safety hands out parking tickets.

- 80 girls + four-hour open bar = Swan-Daisy Deathmatch 2003.

- Watching the sunrise from inside of the 2nd floor of Burke, now that it's open 24/7.

Do your professors make the grade?

by Blake Erb '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS COLUMNIST

As we enter the month of December and approach the end of the semester and finals, we will soon be able to participate in our favorite classroom activity. Yes, you guessed it. The class evaluation forms. Class evaluation forms give students a chance to reflect on the semester and express their feelings on the quality of the course content and of the professor who taught the course.

In my experience, students do not take advantage of this opportunity, instead seeing this opportunity to do nothing as a nice break from the ramblings of the professor.

This is due to laziness and apathy of some students, but also to the perceived lack of influence and importance that the evaluation forms have on professors and the administration.

As a freshman two years ago, I was nervous upon receiving the evaluation forms. I diligently and carefully filled out each and every question and put a lot of thought and effort into my answers. I wanted to provide my teacher with constructive and useful comments and reflect on the class in such a way that I could determine methods by which I could gain more from future classes.

However, as I looked around the rest of the room, I saw students hastily scratching out meaningless answers to the evaluation questions or merely lounging in their seats, as they had finished the evaluation in mere seconds. Don't get me wrong, brevity does have its merits, but it does not work for evaluations.

If you ask someone how they thought you performed at the concert last night and they say, "Bad," and walk away, you receive nothing but a deflated ego and a new enemy. Positive or negative, one must elaborate on their comments, so the person being evaluated knows what needs to be fixed and what they are doing well.

One problem I have noticed is that students don't believe their comments impose any influence on the administration or faculty. I have heard students say, "This professor has tenure. It doesn't matter what we write."

Well, yeah, we can't fire a professor that has been teaching for 25 years, has attained a notable reputation within their academic field and is teaching at one of the best liberal arts schools in the nation. Duh. The vindictive comments of one student are not going to influence any administrator to take drastic action against a professor. Constructive evaluations, however, can give the administration an idea of which professors are performing in a way deserving of promotion, recognition, etc.

The faculty can use evaluations of their peers to determine which professors are appropriately qualified to chair departments as well as to improve their own teaching through the comments made about themselves and their fellow professors. A single evaluation may not have the influence to get a professor fired or hired but it does provide useful input for the people that read it.

Another problem is that students may feel their comments will fall on deaf ears. I heard one student comment that a certain professor was his favorite because he "seemed human," thus implying that other professors seem to be intimidating and almost super-human.

The lowly student cannot possibly understand enough about the subject to supply any sort of useful criticisms, right? Wrong. Despite the fact that I feel many professors in the academic world, including Hamilton College, have disgustingly egotistical opinions about themselves and their work, one must never be afraid to express their own opinions. Even professors with the most irritatingly gigantic egos will take notice of critical comments if they are received from a number of students, and are constructive and respectful. To ignore such comments would be a discredit to themselves and to their line of work.

The responsibility of the administration and faculty to read and consider these evaluations dictates that students have the responsibility to actually create thoughtful critiques.

Some students may shirk this responsibility due to sheer laziness. I myself have fallen victim to this attitude, so I know that it happens. Leaving blank answers or just randomly filling out the questions is unacceptable behavior; it is disrespectful to the professor who has put time and effort into preparing and teaching the class. Teaching can be an extremely rewarding and enjoyable career, but I'm sure that sometimes it is all professors can do to prevent themselves from grabbing students by the throat and strangling them. Every student has had tests or papers where the professor responded with "Good Grief!" or "What were you thinking?!"

So, next week, when all the evaluations are given out, remember the importance that your comments hold. Remember that they will allow the administration and faculty of Hamilton College to provide more enjoyable and challenging courses that will help students grow more as intellectuals, workers and people.

Don't just put the same answers on every evaluation, or use it as an excuse to vent your frustration towards a professor because you performed badly in a class, or make jokes and silly comments.

Treat the evaluations as an opportunity to make sure that the same class is better taught and prepared next time. Write an evaluation for a younger professor that contains well-written comments of praise or advice, or dismiss the myth that old dogs can't learn new tricks and provide an old and established professor with some tips to improve his or her teaching.

Open and respectful communication is one of the keys to solving problems. Taking these course evaluations seriously is one of the first steps into improving the classroom environment at Hamilton and continuing our trend of academic excellence.

"Just say no" to unreasonable alcohol policies

by Jesse Gaylord '06
INSIGHTS & IDEAS CONTRIBUTOR

What do you get when you have students going to the hospital, damage costs rising and a general distaste for the college drinking scene? Well, on the Hamilton campus, you get the administration's hand on your shoulder getting stronger and stronger with little forewarning.

Yet, as I watch my friends getting written up and the Hill finds itself on the cusp of a new alcohol policy, I feel as though the Hamilton Community is being strangely silent on the issue.

There needs to be more dialogue between the students and the administration, in a larger forum than that of the small committee that has already been assembled. Unless this is done soon, no one (save a small minority) will be satisfied with the outcome.

Student drinking needs to stay on the Hill to ensure that not only the students stay safe, but also to make sure that that students stay on the Hill instead of driving downtown to Clinton. The solution is not stricter policy, but education and public knowledge of the rules.

Whether or not you observe such holidays as "Boozeday Tuesday" or "Thirsty Thursday," the new alcohol policy will affect you. I know those of you who don't drink are saying, "I have never shot-gunned a Keystone in my life, nor do I ever want to funnel a beer on the quad." However, when you look beyond your immediate lifestyle, the people who do drink affect the way this campus is run, just like you do.

It is never good to be harassed by someone waving a Corona on Martin's Way, and it is never conducive to your safety when there are four guys pulling down a lamp. All Hamilton students need to contribute to the changes that are being made.

As a starting point, let us analyze last year's policies and attitude. I know I am not alone in saying that last year was more lenient and everyone, students and administration included, was more relaxed about drinking on campus.

Before I continue, I must clarify that I am referring to of-age and underage drinking. Last year there was no such thing as having an entire hallway in Bundy being one step from social probation. Sanctions were almost non-existent. Last year in South, there was a room that partied almost every night, and I can only remember one occasion when Campus Safety made their presence known. Even in that instance, the level of the music was the only problem.

Last year, responsible drinking in the dorms cut back on students running around campus and downtown. Also, Bundy Parties were not third-party catered; the lines were long and the floor dirty, the way a Bundy Party should be. I ask, what was so bad about last year that necessitated such a rash of change?

This year, the reins have become tighter without warning. Hamilton is losing its identity as a school where the kids do two things extremely well: work and party. I wholeheartedly disagree with President Stewart's remark in the most recent issue of the Spectator that the "Work Hard, Play Hard" adage is unacceptable. If I get my work done, why shouldn't I be able to have a good time as well?

New sanctions will usher in three things that, in the long run, will be worse than having people drink on campus in a controlled environment: The amount of damage is going to increase, the number of pre-gaming parties will rise due to the difficulty of obtaining beer at third-party catered events, and drunk driving will most certainly skyrocket as students become fed up waiting for the Jitney to get downtown to the bars. The drawbacks of the new policy will outweigh the benefits.

Instead of taking enforcement to one end of the spectrum (which the "Just say no" campaign did in the 80's, with little success), accept the issue and work with it. Hamilton is an elite educational institution. Why not take an idea my Hamilton EMT friend proposed and make an alcohol education seminar mandatory for all freshmen instead of a gym class. Such a program would help first-years learn their limits and cut down on hospital visits.

Unfortunately, when all is said and done, I realize I have very little legal foundation to stand on. I am nineteen, and two months before I was born, the federal government cut highway funding to all states whose drinking age was not twenty-one.

Don't get me wrong, I can see that drinking is a possible explanation for damage and sexual assault on campus. However, from talking to many of my peers, we all feel that when you pass that Hamilton College wall at the bottom of the Hill, you enter into a different world.

College campuses are site for new beginnings and self-discovery. This college needs to acknowledge that drinking exists on this campus and do something more reasonable and less Draconian to keep its students safe.

The way to deal with this is not to create a committee with a gross misrepresentation of the student body (although there are individuals on the committee I trust to be level-headed) but to start a campus wide movement that places education at the forefront.

This school is here for the students. Hamilton is our avenue to expand our knowledge and grow into responsible adults. Why not incorporate something more than academics into Hamilton's curriculum? Remember, President Stewart, All work and no play makes Jesse a dull boy.

Can't "Hold 'Em" down

by Adam Gordon '06
INSIGHTS & IDEAS COLUMNIST

Forget drinking. We Hamtechies have got another addiction. For once, it doesn't involve abusing our bodies, although it may eventually abuse our wallets. You know what I'm talking about: No Limit Texas Hold 'Em.

It's the most fun, hardcore, badass poker game ever to be played. "Hold 'Em," has been sweeping through this campus faster than an STD at a Bundy party. Inspired by this summer's Poker World Series, which was broadcast on ESPN, some students have flocked to buy cards, chips, and in some cases, even green felt tables. Others have been playing for quite some time, and are happy that the game is finally catching on.

Texas Hold 'Em embraces the "traditional" poker rules. Here is a quick summary of how the game goes, courtesy of www.pokerroom.com:

1. General poker rules & sequence of action apply in Texas Hold 'Em.
2. Each player is dealt two cards face-down (pocket cards).
3. First betting round.
4. Dealer turns over three community cards (the flop) face-up.
5. Second betting round.
6. Dealer turns over 1 more community card (the turn).
7. Third betting round.
8. Dealer turns over 1 final community card (the river).
9. Final betting round.
10. Showdown.

It's not uncommon to find Hold 'Em games all around campus on a weeknight or weekend. No matter where one is, he or she is bound to find this classic game being played by people of different genders, nationalities, and dorms.

I'd estimate that Hold 'Em is now the second or third most widely practiced social activity, behind partying, of course. You can even get a great free virtual Hold 'Em game online at www.pokerroom.com. That's right kiddos, we're starting to realize that we don't have to destroy our livers (no matter how fun it may be) to survive the cold.

Now, you may be wondering what accounts for Hold 'Em's appeal. There are a variety factors. One is that it's a good opportunity to hang out with friends and even meet new people. We usually play with such minimal money (2 or 5 cent chips), that sometimes it's not really as much about winning as it about bonding. Some kids get creative and enhance their poker 'image" by wearing cool hats and sunglasses and giving themselves nicknames like the professionals. Who would have thought that a card game could spark so much creativity?

Hold 'Em is also the perfect remedy for a boring night. Games can last hours and hours, and the excitement and drama does not stop. Even if you lose a hand, you always get the opportunity to start fresh with the next one. One Friday night, we played continuously from 9 PM to 3 AM. Experienced player Adam Lavallee '05 noted that he once played for about 24 hours in a 30 hour period. You have to love that kind of dedication.

Hold 'Em is a more intellectual poker game than regular 5 card draw because it requires more skill than luck. Rounders, perhaps the definitive poker movie, captures this idea. In the movie, Matt Damon says, "Why do you think the same 5 guys are at the finals of the world series of poker EVERY year? They're the luckiest guys in Vegas?"

In response, Kyle Graham '06 proclaims, "Here, the better player wins. Sure there's luck, but it really comes down to skill. Newcomers think they can just sit down and start winning... that's crap."

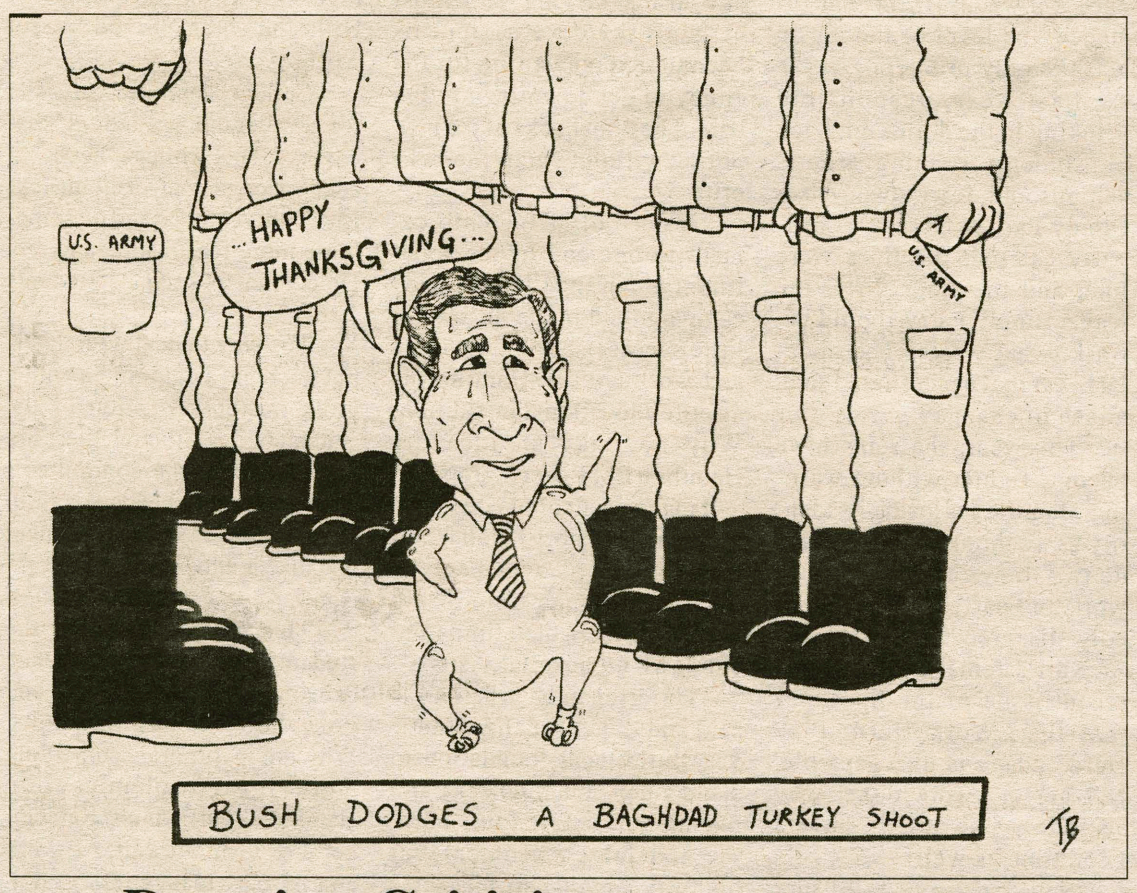
You may not realize it, but Texas Hold 'Em awards the player with a variety of unforeseen skills. It helps you with figuring out probabilities, statistics, and a gives a solid basis for problem-solving. Hey, mom and dad would be proud that you're actually learning something.

Some students have played so much with friends and online, they have taken their poker games to the next level. After noticing his Hold 'Em talents, Lavallee began to play in online tournaments, and eventually made a few trips to the Turning Stone Casino. In his words, playing Hold 'Em has been "quite profitable."

I don't mean to advocate gambling. Gambling is bad, kids! But playing cards with your buddies with 5 cent chips isn't "real" gambling, anyway. My goal is to share a good, safe way to have fun within the Hamilton community.

With recent concerns about alcohol abuse, including an all campus email from President Stewart, I think it's good to explore other alternatives. You don't even have to play for money. I've seen people play for Roma's, and even for doing someone's laundry. The point is to have a good time. Lavallee warns inexperienced players who want to become serious on what they're getting into: "The competition is getting better, and you shouldn't play for real money unless you know the game."

In the meantime, if anyone else figures out a better way two dollars can entertain me for an entire night, let me know. Otherwise, I'll be playing poker.



Drawing Criticism: by Tom Booth '06

Need to drop heat? Don't sweat it.

An in-depth investigation of Hamilton's toilets

by Michael Signorelli '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS CONTRIBUTOR

One of Hamilton's finest toilets, pre-weekend.

You may wonder how such an inspired idea – to evaluate and offer opinions on Hamilton's toilet scene – ever occurred to me. I can't exactly answer that question myself, but it is hard to ignore our pungent metabolic waste.

Anyway, my level of enjoyment in dealing with intestinal inevitabilities varies according to my specific bathroom environment. Hamilton has dozens upon dozens of public toilets to choose from, each of which has different qualities and characteristics that will effect the enjoyment of your pooping.

Unfortunately, you can't predict the type of bathroom environment you are going to encounter without a previous visit to that particular 'john.' So, to help Hamilton students avoid any unpleasantness, I have taken it upon myself to investigate and spotlight the best and worst toilets on campus.

There are many factors to consider when evaluating the quality of a bathroom. Are people going to hear the pre-crap foghorn echoing out from under you? Is a professor or student liable to burst in on your parade? Is the height of the toilet throwing your wiping habits out of whack? These are pertinent questions, all of which I have taken into account while choosing this edition's "Bathroom of the Week!"

Imagine yourself sitting at a desk in the library. You have been writing a paper about the reunification of Germany, ostensibly about vampires, and your insides begin to whine and rumble. You are beginning the third paragraph when a distinct intestinal movement enlivens your descending colon. There will be no paragraph without relief.

Should you run back to South Dorm and your luxurious private toilet? No, only a few feet away on the third floor lies one of the most secluded toilets on campus. Of course, I am referring to the men's bathroom on the third floor of the library. Some may disagree with me concerning the bathroom's privacy, but I must protest.

Never have I encountered a fellow student warming the toilet seat for me, and never have I felt rushed off the porcelain. The lock is sturdy and the ventilation whisks away resulting vapors. Never do I have to negotiate fossilized urine on the toilet seat; this is a very clean bathroom.

Unfortunately, it is not as good as it could be. The stall has been repainted black, destroying many fraternity-related pictographs etched into the aging metal. I always enjoyed seeing a stick figure representing DU giving it hard to a submissive stick figure marked TDX. I am sure that there will be many more suggestive drawings and bold statements to replace these faded ones.

Already, opinions concerning the ISC (Inter Society Council) are finding their way into this bathroom. Wow! It is strange how we voice some of our most pointed opinions through the anonymity of the bathroom.

The stalls of Hamilton have their fingers on the pulse of the Hamilton community. Any major crisis, a new president, a Greek society suspension or third party caterers is likely to be mentioned on the four cramped walls around a toilet seat. Perhaps this is one reason I chose to investigate the nature of Hamilton's toilets (Yeah, maybe, I just really like making poop jokes).

So now that you are seated on that smooth porcelain (if you are a guy, since this is a men's bathroom), you may notice that only your toes are touching the floor. Yes, the toilet seat is a little high. This could be seen as a negative attribute, but it can be compared to driving an SUV. You're higher up, which is good. There are an extra few inches between your ass and the festering grime that covers the tile floor below you.

So go out and give the third floor of the library a try, and let me know what you think. And stay tuned for more insight on the inextricable connection between Hamilton students and their toilets.

Close the door!

by R. Andre Chapman '07
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

Respecting others, whether directly or indirectly, is very important. The vibe you give off to others is what many people use to evaluate your level of respect for them. In this vein, I believe I speak for many when I say that a propped dormitory door is careless and thoughtless, to some extent.

A perfect example of how this results in inconvenience for others occurs when a resident of a dorm walks from their room to the shared lavatory of the dorm floor they live on, freezing their butt off in only a towel; all because someone left the door propped open so they wouldn't have to find their keys when they got to the dorm. This may be because the "propper" doesn't want to pay for a key they lost, or it may be that they have their key, but simply can't find it.

This is selfish, thoughtless of others, and should be stopped. This door-propping business is also a safety issue. What if someone enters uninvited, and steals dorm residents' possessions? One can only look on the situation in retrospect and rue the fact that the door was left open.

This is not just about what is fair, it is also about what is right. The dorm doors close automatically for many reasons: to keep out unwanted guests, to ensure that vermin do not enter the building, and to make sure the dormitory stays nice and warm so that it is habitable for students. It is for all of these reasons that there should be measures taken to ensure the safety of the students living in the dormitories on campus.

Even if I were not directly affected by the problem of doors being propped open, I would fight for the rights of everyone who is affected by doors being propped open. I know how it feels to understand where someone else is coming from in such matters.

Most of the time, the people who prop open the door are generally considerate people, sometimes even your friends. Even if they are your friends, you shouldn't ignore the fact that there are other people that live in the dorm too, and you should insist that they close the door for others' sake.

These people should, before they prop open another door, think about the other people in the dorm instead of always thinking about themselves. I like to think that my dorm is safe; when people prop open the door they lower the level of safety that everyone is entitled to, and that is not fair.

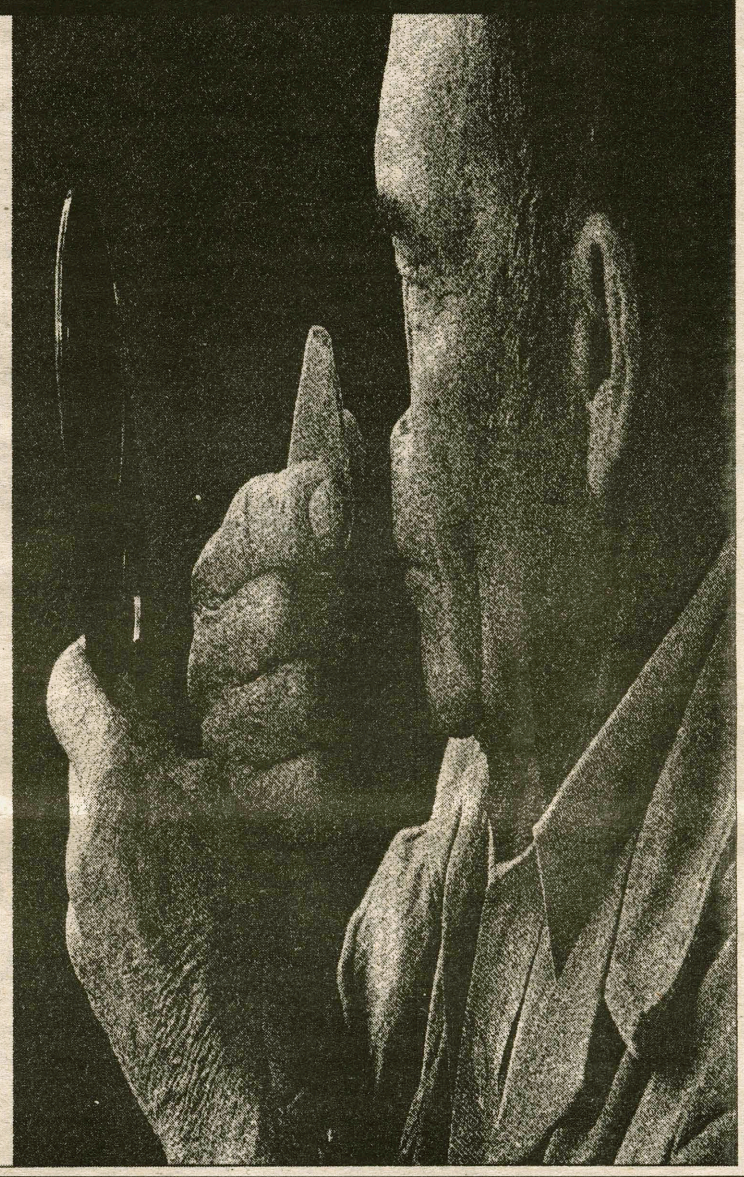
So, next time you decide to prop open a door, think about who you are affecting, and in what ways are you affecting them. If the bad effects outweigh the good ones, then you should probably take measures to make sure the door is closed instead.

Interested in writing for Insights & Ideas? Holla' back at Allison (adavis) or Bill (wcheneve).

SKIN CANCER CAN KILL YOU. AND NOW FOR THE REALLY BAD NEWS.

Skin cancer can kill you. But it's much more likely to disfigure you. Every year, thousands of Americans lose chunks of their skin to the disease. Noses. Ears. Eyebrows. So examine your skin regularly for warning signs. If you find anything bleeding, crusting or not healing, see your dermatologist. For more information on how to identify skin cancer, call 1-888-462-DERM, or visit www.aad.org.

AAD AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY



PIZZERIA GRANDES RESTAURANT
OF CLINTON
853-7700
12 East Park Row
Clinton, NY 13323

10% OFF
off of all purchases for Hamilton Students with ID and this Coupon

Specials

Small Pizza & 20 Wings
10.75

Large Pizza & 50 Wings
19.95

Large Pizza & 25 Wings
17.95

Specialty Pizzas
Round Tomato Pie.....6.75
Garlic Pizza.....8.95
Garlic Broccoli Pizza.....10.95
Garlic, Hot Peppers, Black Olives & Tomato.....13.95
Buffalo Chicken Pizza (Med., Hot & BBQ Sauce).....13.95
Grandes Famous Upside Down Pizza
Marinara Sauce Topped With Grated Cheese.....9.95

Pizza

	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
Broccoli, Eggplant, Sausage, Mushrooms, Pepperoni, Peppers, Onions, Meatballs, Spinach, Anchovies, Double Cheese, Black Olives

Slices
Garlic Slices.....1.16 each + tax
Pizza Slices.....1.16 each + tax
Extras.....35c each

10 Wings.....4.75
20 Wings.....6.75
30 Wings.....8.75
40 Wings.....11.95
50 Wings.....13.95
60 Wings.....15.95
70 Wings.....17.95
80 Wings.....19.95
90 Wings.....21.95
100 Wings....24.95
150 Wings....35.00
200 Wings....46.00
250 Wings....54.00

Frank's RedHot
Buffalo Style CHICKEN WINGS
Celery 85c Extra
Bleu Cheese 85c Extra

Rape Aggression Defense class to run again in February

by Tracy Glass '04
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) course has run three sessions at Hamilton since it began last January. The last session completed thanksgiving weekend. It is a basic twelve-hour self-defense course for women. The group meets once a week for four weeks in four-hour sessions. The fourth and final session is a simulation live attack by a man wearing a protective suit.

Wayne Gentile, the Campus Safety Evening Supervisor, actively attempted to bring this special program to Hamilton over the last several years. Gentile's first experiences with the RAD program began at the New Hampshire Safety Academy where the safety officers train. He stated, "I thought the program was very interesting and interactive, I also thought it would be nice to give back to the student body in a positive manner, rather than have many of Campus Safety's interactions with students be negative." Officer Gentile met with his supervisor with his proposal shortly after completing his training, but there unfortunately was no funding for such an operation.

Soon after Gentile was promoted to his current position, some Hamilton College female students came to his office requesting that a defense course be taught at Hamilton by an off-campus instructor. Gentile showed the women the proposal he had previously written and explained that funding had been an issue. The girls helped to bring the proposal back through the President's office for funding. They were successful last fall.

The College allotted funding for Gentile and Mike Sawanec, a Campus Safety officer, to be certified as RAD instructors. The President's office also funded the materials and the cost for the students. Gentile and Sawanec donated their time to the groups of girls interested in the course.

The course was a hit. Kaitlin Polak '04, originally signed up to be with her friends and take advantage of one of the many courses that Hamilton offers. She stated "I really enjoyed the course, not only did I leave with defensive skills and the ability to get myself out a situation, but I also left with a renewed sense of self-confidence." The group of girls worked well together, and they had great coaches. She continued, "Wayne and Mike were excited to be teaching the course, they helped to push us, but also were very sensitive to the nature of the subject and were careful to be supportive at all times. And they were, we definitely felt supported throughout the course."

The course not only taught defensive moves, but also discussed general issues of avoiding physical defensive maneuvers. Polak said, "they preached responding at an appropriate level to a situation, to not gauge someone's eyes out for saying something offensive - to balance your response, perhaps even diffuse the situation." The group was then taught defensive moves to combat attacks. They learned the correct reactions to an attack from behind, front, and other scenarios.

The last session, when Sawanec dressed in the Redman red padded suit and assumed the role of an attacker, "was an adrenaline rush and also an eye-opener," Polak said. "It was amazing to see the progression of the other girls and in yourself. The group as a whole left the RAD program with great confidence." The program will run again in February, look for upcoming emails if your are interested.

BSU to commemorate Kwanzaa in upcoming celebration

by Bea Dias '04
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR
CO-CULTURAL CHAIR, BSU

Kwanzaa is an African American celebration that is focused on bringing families and communities together, and is based on seven guiding principles. The seven principles are Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith.

In 1966, Dr. Maulana Karenga envisioned and founded Kwanzaa. The word "Kwanzaa" is drawn from the Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits." Dr. Karenga added an "a" to the spelling of the word "kwanza" in order to distinguish the African American celebration from the African first harvest celebrations. He sought to create a celebration that was unique to African Americans, separate from any religious or political affiliations. Kwanzaa is celebrated from the 26th of December to the 1st of January. Contrary to what some believe, however, Kwanzaa was not created to be a substitute for Christmas. Until the birth of Kwanzaa, Americans did not observe a holiday that catered to the needs or aspirations of African Americans. As Martin Luther King had noted, America had defaulted on the promise of the Constitution and its principles as far as African Americans were concerned. In opposition to the nation's periodic episodes of historical amnesia, African Americans desired to create an enclave that would allow them to celebrate their triumphant accomplishments within the nation, including consistent championing of democratic and humanitarian ideals, overcoming slavery and resisting racial apartheid and disenfranchisement. Hence, it was imperative that African Americans created a space for themselves, within which they were able to celebrate their culture and traditions of endurance and achievement. The goal of Kwanzaa is to instill in African Americans those principles, which assisted their ancestors in enduring and combatting oppression, slavery and racism.

The celebration of Kwanzaa emerged during a revolutionary period, when many social and political changes were taking place in the US. The mid-20th century marked a turning-point in the battle for the liberation and self-determination of all African American peoples. During this era the civil rights movement was in a dynamic state, with great individuals such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King in the public eye, speaking and encouraging significant transformations around the country. The 1960s saw the activities of the Black Panther organization and other Black self-help and cultural organizations. It also saw the assassinations of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and widespread riots in many inner cities. Dr. Karenga chose this opportune time to introduce the celebration of Kwanzaa to the African American community. He felt that the black youth were being infected with the disease of miseducation. Thus, it was imperative for the older generation to combat this disease by educating black youth about their history and the values and traditions of their ancestors. Currently, Dr. Maulana Karenga is professor and chair of the Department of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach.

The great success of Kwanzaa is confirmed by its ever-growing popularity throughout the world, despite brief periods when it seemed to fade from our consciousness. The Black Student Union of Hamilton College will commemorate Kwanzaa on the 9th of December, 2003; at 6 pm, in the Annex. We hope you will join us in continuing this noble tradition, not with blind faith, but with the complete awareness of its positive, life affirming value.

Contributions made by: Professor V. Odamtten and Redell Armstrong '02.

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

11 YEARS AGO
December 4, 1992

TDX files suit against College over lease dispute

Theta Delta Chi alumni took legal action against Hamilton last month following a dispute over property rights to the Chapter's house.

TDX was placed on indefinite suspension last Spring for disciplinary reasons. The fraternity owns the house, but not the land on which it sits.

Hamilton has undertaken, at its own expense, the cleaning and winterization of the house. The College does not desire to assume possession and responsibility of the house because doing so would require further investment of capital.

The Psi Charge Corporation of TDX, the fraternity's alumni corporation, comprised of all the active membership of TDX and controlled by elected officials, owns the TDX chapter house on Hamilton's campus. The corporation affirms that when the College closed down the operation of the house last Spring, it, in essence, secured possession of the house.

27 YEARS AGO
December 3, 1976

Evaluations: Measure of Teacher Popularity or Skill?

Kirkland faculty have expressed mixed reactions about students evaluations of courses and professors.

Although many professors are in favor of student course evaluations, many have also expressed reservations about them. "Kirkland's particular form does not ask the kind of questions I need to know," said Bill Hoffa, Associate Professor of Literature. Kirkland's forms are "too inflexible, they don't bend to the individual needs of the instructor. Or the course," he added.

Some professors are dissatisfied with the timing of the course evaluations. The end of the semester is a bad time for the evaluations, said Nadine George, chair of the Sciences Division. "Students change from year to year and the criticisms of one class might not hold true for the next," George said. If students hand in comments during the semester, then the professor can improve the class during that term, George added.

Doug Raybeck, chairman of the Social Sciences Division, stated that any timing has its problems. "A long range perspective is useful but it doesn't allow the student to respond in detail to the course." If the evaluations are completed too early in the semester, then certain necessary questions become inappropriate, Raybeck said.

Some professors believe that student course evaluations play too large a role in the reappointment process. "I'm convinced that student evaluations play an enormous role, perhaps too large a role," Hoffa said. "It frightens me that reappointment decisions rest, not on colleagues, not on the appointment committee, but in the hands of students who can't always evaluate in a detached way," he added.

[In revising the system] "We're starting from scratch. Before we can devise new questions, we must decide what aspects of teaching and learning we want to ask questions about. We also want the forms to be flexible, to be applicable to all teachers, courses, subjects, and teaching methods," Assistant Professor of American Studies David Locke said.

30 YEARS AGO
December 6, 1973

Police Investigate Hitching Problem

There have been five "hitchhiking incidents" involving ten Kirkland women in the past several days, according to Jane Poller, Dean of Students. "It is our hope that it will be resolved very shortly," said Poller. Poller refused to divulge details for fear that they may jeapardize the success of the police investigation.

A Kirkland student reported, however, that the suspect indecently exposed himself to students, and he is considered dangerous.

The incidents which students reported to Poller all occurred between December 3 and 5, and in one instance happened within fifteen minutes of each other. Poller acknowledged that there were several "related incidents" on the Kirkland campus earlier this year.

Science & Technology

The 2003 Holiday Technology Gift Guide

Michael Gruen '06
SCIENCE WRITER

Aram Kudurshian '06
SCIENCE EDITOR

Every year during the holidays, countless publications produce their own holiday gift guides littered with useless products that will, for the most part, be returned New Year's Day. So, when it was time to write this year's Spectator December Gift Guide, we looked into gifts with lasting appeal... or at least tried to. After careful consideration, here are the following gifts we'd like to receive this holiday season.

MP3 Players

There are two types of MP3 players to consider: solid state and hard disk based. While solid-state MP3 players are smaller, lighter, and generally have less delay between the switching of tracks, hard disk based players provide far more storage, yielding more songs in your pocket at any given time. A typical solid state drive on the market holds about 256 MB of music, roughly equivalent to 4 hours worth, while hard disk based players hold 10 GB of music at a minimum.

The Apple iPod
www.apple.com

There simply is no other MP3 player that can touch the intuitiveness and style of the iPod.

The iPod is the best looking MP3 player out there with the easiest method to find songs. Don't agree? We challenge you to find any consumer device with an easier and more intuitive input system. Using the touch-sensitive wheel, you can effortlessly navigate through thousands of songs. The wheel also controls volume, seek, and the built-in games that are perfect when you are waiting for the Jitney.

The iPod is also compatible with a host of sound formats, from the venerable MP3 format, to lesser known AAC, MP3VBR, WAV, AIFF and Audible codecs. One file format lacking is the less used ogg-vorbis format, an open-source response to the MP3 format.

Apple included a 25-minute skip-protection buffer within the unit. While some hard disk based MP3 players can skip like an old-school cd-player when jolted, the iPod plays on, essential whenever you're listening to music in motion: Driving, walking, or streaking down Martin's Way. It's the sexiest damn thing out there. Go get one.

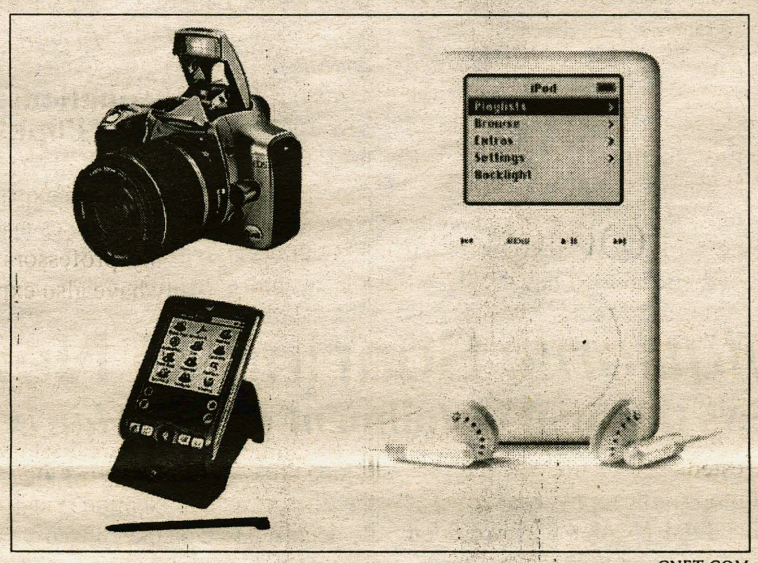
Creative Nomad MuVo NX
www.nomadworld.com

While the iPod remains king of the hard disk MP3 players, the MuVo NX is the champion of the small, solid state MP3 players. Without moving parts, you can throw around the MuVo NX without skipping a beat - perfect for the fitness center.

With up to 256MB of storage, the Muvo NX can play for up to 12 hours on one AAA battery. Since the iPod includes a rechargeable battery that needs to be recharged ever 8 hours, the Muvo wins out on long trips where it is impossible to find a power outlet.

Unfortunately, the MuVo is only compatible with the MP3 and WMA sound formats but makes up for it with the included voice recorder - capturing up to 8 hours of dictation. With this feature, you'll never have to worry about falling asleep in KJ Aud again!

With the MuVo, transferring files is as easy as drag and drop. Just plug the device into any USB port, drop in the songs you want to listen to, and go. The unit also doubles as a USB key, allowing you to transfer more than just music between computers - perfect for your thesis.



CNET.COM
APPLE.COM

From left-to-right, the Canon Digital Rebel, the Apple iPod, and the Palm Zire 71.

Handheld Organizers

Generally associated with busy Wall Street execs, these palm-sized devices are a savior to any forgetful college student. With the software included on all handhelds, users can store countless addresses, calendar events, to-do lists, assignments, and even music by simply tapping the screens with the included stylus.

There are currently two competing handhelds, those based on Palm One's Palm OS and those based on Microsoft's Pocket PC platform. While both are similar in functionality, Palm Pilots are generally easier to use while Pocket PCs are more powerful and feature-rich.

Palm Zire 71
www.palm.com

Aimed at busy, everyday consumers, the Palm Zire 71 features anything a student would want in a handheld. The $299 Palm Pilot is capable of snapping pictures with its built in camera, playing music with the included headphones, displaying movies and images on its bright, colorful screen, and playing games such as Sonic the Hedgehog.

Of course, the Palm Pilot also features all of the productivity tools we would expect including a calendar, address book, note pad, expense account, and to-do list. Thousands of applications are also available for download from the web; for the busy college student, we recommend Palmasutra- an interesting reference guide when you need it the most.

HP iPaq h5555
www.hp.com

If money is no object, this $649 Pocket PC will allow you to surf the internet wirelessly, watch movies on its large 3.8 inch screen, and allow you to work in Microsoft Word and Excel. For those who are paranoid, the built-in biometric fingerprint recognition will keep the data safe from prying eyes and built-in Bluetooth means you can transfer the data between your computer and the iPaq without using a cradle.

Digital Cameras

While digital Cameras have yet to reach the quality of regular-old 35mm film, the quality of images has drastically improved over the past years. As more mega-pixels are squeezed into smaller bodies and color definition and sharpness improves, the digital alternative looks more and more viable for consumers. Just like their 35mm counterparts, digital cameras come in two flavors: Point-and-shoot and Single Lens Reflex (SLR).

The most important considerations when purchasing a digital camera are the number of mega-pixels it has and whether it has an optical zoom (as opposed to the standard digital zoom). A two mega-pixel camera, the bare minimum anyone should consider, will allow pictures to be printed at normal postcard size. To print large images or high-resolution posters, consumers should be looking at 3, 4 and 5 mega-pixel cameras.

The difference between digital zoom and optical zoom is where the zoom is taking place. Digital zoom occurs within the camera and is simply the magnification of the picture through cropping. This can lead to lower resolution pictures and mediocre results. Optical zoom takes place directly within the lens, much like normal film cameras. This allows the camera to capture the full resolution possible while being able to more precisely zoom in on an object.

As a rule of thumb, anyone looking to purchase a digital camera should aim for a 2 mega-pixel or higher camera with at least 2x optical zoom.

Nikon CoolPix 2100
www.nikonusa.com

Aimed at casual consumers, this simple-to-use point and shoot digital camera features a 2 mega-pixel processor and 2x optical zoom. Priced at under $200 (available for $160 online), the camera comes with rechargeable batteries, a bright 1.5" LCD, and a starter memory card capable of holding around 16 pictures. This is a prefect camera for everyday use and features 14 different modes for various conditions.

Sony P10
www.sonystyle.com

Priced at $450, this 5 mega-pixel camera with 3x zoom weighs just 7.6 ounces and is capable of taking bright, colorful images that can be printed out on media as large as 10 x 14, perfect for those who want to frame the pictures they take. The included 32 MB memory card can hold 12 pictures at the highest resolution so those interested should consider purchasing a larger, 128 MB memory card which can hold about 50 images.

Canon Digital Rebel
www.canoneos.com

Introduced only last month, the Canon Digital Rebel has taken the consumer DSLR market by storm. Similar in construction to its 35mm counterpart, the Canon TI, the Digital Rebel is a 6.3 MP digital camera that retails for $899. The number one feature of this camera is its ability to use any Canon lens. This means it is possible to have complete control over all of the settings, substitute a standard lens with a telephoto one and use any of the many accessories available for Canon's standard line of film SLRs.

Other Gifts

The above gifts are usually the "hot" holiday items across the board, but here are some suggestions that may prove less than practical but are oh-so cool.

GloFish
www.glofish.com

Residential Life has strict policies on allowing pets inside the dorms - or so they think. For those who like to abide by the rules and would still like a cool pet in his or her room, consider the GloFish. By absorbing ambient light during the day, these Fluorescent zebra fish will glow all night long, much like glow-in-the-dark stickers.

Scientists initially bred them to help detect water contamination, but now they can swim around for your personal entertainment (or nightlight) in the comfort of your own room. Although they will not be available for purchase by Christmas, expect pet stores to carry GloFish in early January.

Airzooka
www.thinkgeek.com

About the size of a basketball with a pistol grip, the Airzooka shoots out a burst of air with surprising accuracy. The huge air chamber has a plastic diaphragm on one side, which you pull back like a bow and arrow. Releasing the "trigger" forces a ball of air to channel through the chamber and hit the chosen. The Airzooka works up to and beyond thirty feet. Great for pro-seminars - and it only costs $13!

Passport G-Timer GT2
www.escortradar.com

So *Car and Driver* says your VW Jetta does the quarter mile in 17 seconds, but you want to prove your friends you can out perform the magazines test driver?

Consider the Passport G-Timer from Escort Radar. After attaching the astonishingly small device to your windshield and calibrating it while completely stopped, the device measures and records your acceleration, braking, cornering forces (in g's), horsepower, speed and distance traveled. With an optional cable, you can download the recorded data into your computer.

Arts & Entertainment

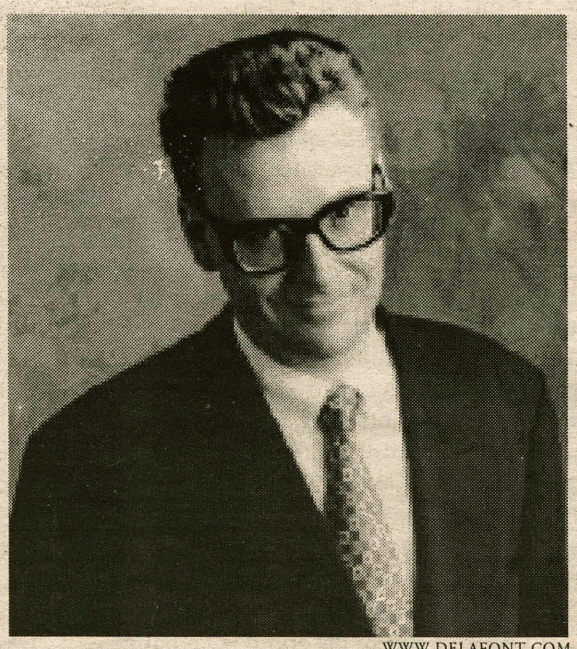
Greg Proops Comes to Hamilton

Tonight CAB Comedy will host actor/comedian Greg Proops in the Annex at 8PM.

Best known for his performances in both the British and American hits, "Whose line is it Anyway?", Greg Proops has also appeared on various sitcoms and talk shows including "The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn", "Talk Soup", 'Politically Incorrect", "The Wayne Brady Show", "Just Shoot Me", and "The Drew Carey Show". Proops has also recorded a half hour of comedy for "Comedy Central Presents" and is now heard as the voice of the mad scientist on Pamela Anderson's animated series, "Stripperella". Others might remember him from George Lucas' ``Star Wars: Episode 1 -- The Phantom Menace.'' He played Fode, a two-headed alien.

Although Greg's acting career has neve really taken off, he still regularly tours the comedy clubs in the US and the UK. And despite US importation of "Whose Line is it Anyway?", Proops remains active in England. Proops even landed a gig performing for Prince Charles at his 50th birthday gala. ``I'm not a big imperialist," says Proops "but when you're invited by the future king of England to perform, it would be churlish to say no." Upon meeting the Prince, Proops offered the traditional "Happy birthday, your Royal Highness" with the more personalized sentiment of "you rock!"

And how did Proops's career reach such auspicious heights? Greg does not offer much insight on his website biography, aside from "attending San Mateo Junior College and San Francisco University where I studied acting, did improv and smoked dope."



WWW.DELAFONT.COM

See the comedy stylings of Gregg Proops in the Annex at 8 p.m. on Friday. The show is will be brought to you by the letters C, A, & B.

Quotesfrom www.sfgate.com, www.hamilton.eduand www.proopdog.com

This Week's Campus Events

There will be a variety of entertaining events on campus this week, so if you are under a lot of pressure as this semester come to a close, there will certainly be things for you to do that will take your mind off of work. Here are some promising upcoming events this coming week:

On Friday the Jazz Ensemble and the Jazz Combo will be performing in Wellin Hall at 8 p.m. This event is open to the public. There will be other musical options available Friday in the Little Pub. From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. you will be entertained by live acoustic music by Jimi James.

On Saturday and Sunday in the KJ Auditorium the "1968" Exhibition Preview Film Series will feature *Woodstock: 3 Days of Peace and Music*. Here is what they have to say about the film: "A look at the Woodstock Music and Art Festival held in Bethal, NY in 1969, with concert footage and portraits of the concertgoers." The Saturday showing will begin at 10 p.m. and the Sunday showing will begin at 7 p.m.

Also on Sunday is the Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols. It will take place in the Chapel at 4 p.m. and the "Hamilton College Choir, directed by Prof. G. Roberts Kolb, will lead this service of familiar carols, biblical narrative, and eloquent anthems of the season." This event will be "officiated by College Chaplain Jeff McArn, with Christmas cookie reception following upstairs in the chapel."

On Thursday, December 11th at 8 p.m. in Wellin Hall there will be a performance of the Hamilton College Orchestra. Here is some information on this event: "Led by Heather Buchman, the HCO will premiere Kill Devil Hill by Lucio Petroccione, commissioned by Hamilton College to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first powered flight. Also on the program is Smetana's Die Moldau and Sibelius' Symphony No. 2.

All quotes were taken from onthe hill.hamilton.edu

The Matrix Convolutions: Soaring to New Lows

Daniel Horowitz '06 reviews the final installment of *The Matrix Trilogy*

An action film can be memorable for a magnitude of reasons. Though acting performances and dialogue are often played down in order to place emphasis on elaborate fight sequences, seeing a grand action sequence on the big screen often grants a moviegoer significant bang for his or her buck. An action movie is especially noteworthy if it takes the genre to a new level and adds new elements to the usually predictable protagonist or the fight scenes.

The Matrix was such a film. Though I feel it is relatively overrated and it does not deserve to be worshipped as it has by the majority of the public, it is quite entertaining. Furthermore, the most significant part of *The Matrix* was its ground breaking action sequences, which were not only meticulously choreographed, but also took the science fiction genre to new cinematic heights. Directors Andy and Larry Wachowski created an unbelievably stylized film in which all locations, costumes, and action were perfectly designed to illustrate the eerie and deceitful futuristic world known as the Matrix. Though Keanu Reeves is by no measure a great actor in the light of major Hollywood heavyweights, he pulled off the role of Neo quite well. His performance, though stills emanating overtones from his *Point Break* and *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* roles, fits in well with the mediocre-at-best dialogue that transitions the characters between action sequences.

Though the Wachowski brothers made a significant effort at a sophisticated script with underlying meanings and philosophical concepts, they were smart enough to minimize the conversations about free will and destiny from the second film. However, despite obvious flaws, *The Matrix* was a major success. Its influential action scenes, especially the contortionist bullet dodging clips, paved the way for hundreds of imitators and added new life to the failing science fiction cinema industry.

Therefore, based on the vastly original premise of the first film, the sequels had a great amount to live up to. Audiences were so enthralled by the special effects in the first film that they craved and expected *Reloaded* and *Revolutions* to take the action to even greater lengths. Unfortunately, both sequels fail in this respect. Though *Reloaded* providing an interesting twist at the end of the first film, *Revolutions* fails in numerous fashions. Though I had been disappointed with *Reloaded*, feeling it was a poor regurgitation of the first with some added characters and gratuitous philosophy, I sat down at the final chapter with an open mind. The advertisements promised an amazing close to the series, with effects and plot twists that would knock the socks off even *Matrix* non-believers. I was expecting action scenes with totally new and mind-blowing effects, that would make bullet-dodging seem antiquated. I was hoping for a sharp script that could stand tall over the previous ones, and hopefully deliver some well-needed intelligent conversation.

You run, you slide, you hit the bump and take a diiiiive! Agent Smith plays hours of Slip 'n' Slide in the Matrix.

The plot of *Revolutions* is quite basic. An army of the machines, led by those octopus-like sentinels, is making its way into the last remaining human city of Zion. Meanwhile, Neo is trapped inside a Matrix-style purgatory, while Trinity and Morpheus make grand efforts to save him. Soon after the three heroes reunite, Neo and Trinity decide, based on one of Neo's unexplainable "visions," to travel to the heart of the machine world (the place in which all the humans are stuck in those little pink bubbles). As the lengthy film progresses, it jumps between scenes of the Zionites defending their city and Trinity and Neo setting forth on their quest while trying to avoid the enviable Agent Smith.

There is no need to further explain the plot, because not only is it ridiculously predictable, but it drags on to such an extent that I was bored by the end. The story makes no efforts to incorporate any suspense or surprise. Rather, it chocks is chock full of an absurd amount of philosophical garbage that dwarfs the amount in the first two films. Every conversation is filled with truth-seeking prophecies that become so lame that it is hard to enjoy the action scenes. It is difficult to understand if the Wachowski brothers wanted to entertain the audience, or unload a bunch of unnecessary textbook junk on the unsuspecting viewer. Any audience member who claims that the philosophy of *Revolutions* is either profound or necessary is not only out of his or her mind, but is also on the same intelligence level as Keanu Reeves.

Usually, the third film in a trilogy, such as Star Wars or Indiana Jones brings the story and action to a zenith. The climatic scenes in these films are marvelous and suspenseful, reflected all the passion of the previous movies. One of the ways directors achieve this is to make the final action sequences completely original and dramatic. Even though the first *Matrix* films included totally unparalleled action and effects, I still would have expected the Wachowski brothers to make an effort to go above and beyond for the close of their epic trilogy. Unfortunately, the final scene does the total opposite. The fight between Agent Smith and Neo not only drags on into an almost tedious fifteen minutes, but the whole time no new effects are incorporated. It is the same martial arts and body stretching maneuvers that the audience has already experienced in four hours of previous *Matrix* footage. In a scene that had so much potential, one that could have closed to series with a bang, it utterly fails. Though I was at the edge of my seat for the first five minutes, I was eventually pondering when the repetitive scenario would end.

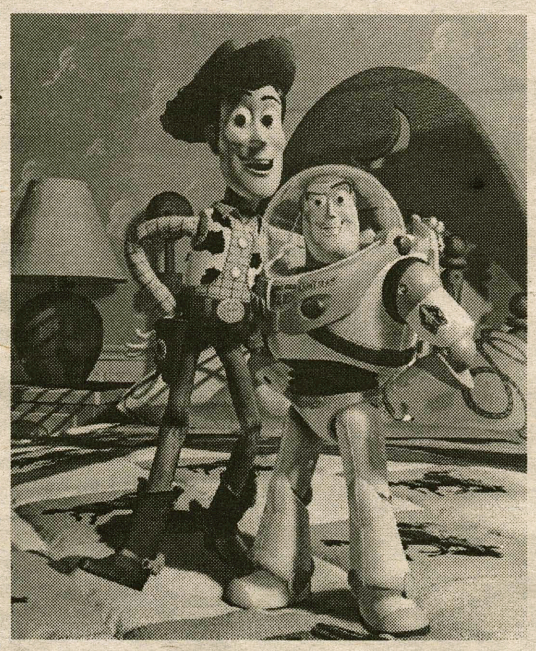
Furthermore, the ending to *Revolutions* is even worse than the climatic action sequences (which as previously stated,

Continued on page 13

Movie News: *The Last Samurai* and The State of Disney

Today will see the opening of *The Last Samurai*. This movie stars Tom Cruise as a Civil War veteran who journeys to Japan. Its director, Edward Zwick, also directed such films as *Glory* and *Courage Under Fire*. Advanced word on the film has been very good overall, though most critics think that the craft of the filmmaking exceeds the originality/appeal of the story. Nevertheless, the film looks far better then many other recent studio releases, so if you have time then give it a chance!

There is big news in the world of Disney this week. Roy E. Disney, the nephew of Walt, has left the studio. From imdb.com: "Disney's open letter to Eisner [CEO of Disney] — it covered three typewritten pages — stunned several observers. Under Eisner's leadership, it said, the company "has lost its focus, its creative energy, and its heritage." Disney presented a laundry list of complaints about Eisner's alleged management failures, including...his ineffectiveness at establishing a strong relationship company partners, including Pixar Animation Studios, and his penchant for "micro-management ... with the resulting loss of morale throughout this company." Disney accused Eisner of driving "a wedge between me and those I work with even to the extent of requiring some of my associates to report my conversations and activities back to you." Finally, Disney wrote, "It is my sincere belief that it is you who should be leaving and not me. Accordingly, I once again call for your resignation or retirement. The Walt Disney Co. deserves fresh, energetic leadership at this challenging time in its history just as it did in 1984, when I headed a restructuring which resulted in your recruitment." Board member Stanley Gold then joined Disney by quitting (he also had harsh words for Eisner).



It looks like the world is going to have to rely on Buzz and Woody to save the art of animation from the vile clutches of the Disney Corporation.

I know I am doing a lot of quoting in this article, but I think that the following is worth reading in response to the resignation of Roy Disney. Harry Knowles, famous film geek of www.aintitcoolnews.com revealed some interesting information in an article responding to Disney's resignation. The reason this is a big event is because of the way that Disney is currently making their films and how it will continue to do so under Eisner. Roy's resignation may cause major change, but it also may give Eisner the power to make many more terrible decisions. You see, Disney is phasing out 2D animation from most of its release slate. They think that the failure of most of their recent movies is due to the fact that people only want to see 3D animation. They don't realize it is because their movies are bad. So as a result, it looks like there wont be any more traditionally animated films. Or will there? Here is what Knowles had to say: "The Future of 2D Animated Film? Well, the odd thing is... the future for this seemingly "dying" form is nestled firmly in the alleged stake that has been so publicly thrust through its chest... PIXAR. The word is that PIXAR is starting their own 2D Animation Division. A company that will use the PIXAR brand... that name which stands for supreme excellence, innovation and soul in animation today... and putting it behind the form that everyone there loves-- 2D Animation." So as Disney continues to crash and burn, you can count on Pixar to rise out of the ashes and begin to run things in the American animation field.

In other news this week, Tim Burton has recently commented on how he plans to bring his adaptation of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* to life. From comingsoon.net: "Well, I don't want to crush people's childhood dreams, but the original film is sappy," Burton says. "It's sappy when it shouldn't be sappy and it's weird. Let's just say it's not one of my personal favorites. I'd rate 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' much higher."Burton says he has wanted to do the remake for years. "I responded to the children's book because it respected that children can be adults, and I think adults forget that. There can be darkness and a sort of foreboding. Very sinister things are very much a part of childhood. I like that sort of humor and emotion put together." And why did he pick Depp, who has starred in various Burton films, for the role? "I just like working with him. He's always surprising and fun."

Finally, it seems that Christopher Nolan is still casting his Batman film. The role of Alfred may be cast already. And who will play him you ask? Michael Caine. Though there has not been an official announcement (to my knowledge) there is a report saying that Caine was approached to take the role and he accepted. The film is tentatively titled *Batman: Intimidation* and will be released in 2005. Christian Bale will play the role of Batman/Bruce Wayne.

- By Brian Sweeney '06

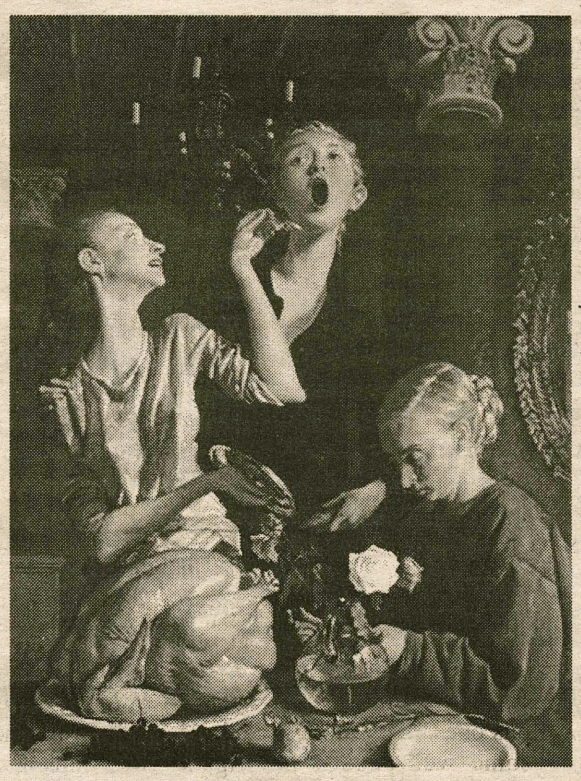
Art Review: John Currin

Alex R. Taylor '07 brings you his latest opinions concerning the world of Art

Far from hallowed ground, two thirds of the work exhibited at the Metropolitan, Louvre, or Hermitage is art of the peripheral vision--half rate pictorial filler hung in basement corridors leading to bathrooms and souvenir shops. Where as art of a more popular and distinguished cannon are sold off as Van Gogh postcards and Boticelli handbags, art of the peripheral vision exists in the netherworld of museum collections, the Alfred Sisley's crowded out by the Monets. And it comes as no surprise that in the postmodern inclination towards self-reference-pioneered by Cindy Sherman's dress up photography-an artist would intentionally revive interest in second rate painting the way John Currin has with his recent retrospective at the Whitney Museum in New York.

Above all John Currin is a painter of discrepancy; having presumably recognized the difference between high and low art he has chosen the latter for inspiration, a shrewd career move in a town that loves to be pissed on by bad painting. At his most successful, particularly *Thanksgiving* and *Fisherman*, Currin approaches the figurative grace of Cranach and Boticelli while subverting their aesthetic realization for tastelessness. In both paintings the elbows snap a little too sharply and the necks never quite rest comfortably on shoulders, redolent of the willful distortion of Ingres's odalisques and their three extra vertebrae. Of course, what Currin takes from Ingres is the tendency towards pomp artificiality and the kitsch sensuality, i.e. the very worst that Ingres has to offer. That's the big joke of the retrospective: Currin can make Boticelli look like Norman Rockwell or, in the case of his *Nude on a Table*, replace the somatic realism of Mantegna's Dead Christ with the unintentional pathos of 50's soft-core porn of vacuous smiles and white sheets.

Like Lucian Freud, Currin is adept at embodying in his figures a palpable sense of nausea and unease and his *Stanford After-Brunch* painting belongs with the London artist's palpable sense of physical gluttony. The principal figures, three seated women halfway between Renoir's idiot-face women and Bosch's crab-legged damned frolic against the barren landscape of America's wealthiest state. Laughing over martinis the women are stylized to the extent that they pantomime human exchange. Currin's figures are caryatids holding up a larger spectacle and as the artist himself writes, "The bellies are not anatomical they're just ways of making nice shapes on canvas. I also thought they would be nice with... cosmo girl faces."



***Thanksgiving*, by John Currin, is on display at the Whitney Museum in New York. The show ends Feb. 22.**

The earliest paintings in the retrospective are terrible, one joke works with single eyed Punch and Judy male figures grabbing the enormous breasts of blond hair doe eyed women. Currin's *The Dream of the Doctor* portrays a doctor who is leaning into a medical curtain with his stethoscope, on which a large pink bra dangles and it's Raphael Peale through Mad Magazine. Aesthetically there is not a whole lot to look at, and unlike Balthus whose proficiency for bad taste is evident in his earliest work, Currin has only recently come into his own artistically.

Matrix Review

from ***Convolutions****, page 12*

practically blunt the action in the first two films). Without ruining the outcome of the trilogy, the conclusion is a massive cop-out. It is poorly written and terribly directed to such an extent that it reinforces my opinion that the *Matrix* saga would have been perfectly illustrated solely through the first film. Although the ending ties together loose ends and wraps up the idiotic philosophy lesson, it is vastly un-profound. The ending is vibrant and pleasing, almost as if out of a fable. It is discontinuous with the dark cynicism that runs throughout the rest of the series. I was hoping for a grand plot twist or thought-provoking conclusion; I was obviously expecting too much.

The cop-out nature of the final action sequence and the ultimate ending is, in essence, a reflection of *Matrix Revolutions*: the film tries so hard to take the series to new heights, but never actually leaves the ground.

Play it Safe

"It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye..."

That's what your parents told you when you were a kid. Shouldn't you tell your children?

Each year thousands of children suffer unnecessary sports-related eye injuries — bruised eyes, scraped or torn corneas, detached retinas and eye hemorrhaging.

Vision Council of America, a nonprofit trade association representing the optical industry, wants parents to know that wearing protective eyewear can prevent or lessen the severity of most eye injuries.

Talk to your eyecare professional about protecting your child's eyes. Safety standards do exist for many sports and your eyecare professional will be able to help you find the eyewear appropriate for your child's activities.

For more information, talk to your eyecare professional or visit the consumer area of VCA's Web site, www.visionsite.org.

PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT

VCA Vision Council of America

Check Yearly. See Clearly.

Need a study *Break*??

Come to CAB's Acoustic Coffeehouse!

Who: *Brooks Williams with Alex Morrison '05 opening*

What: *Guitar Workshop & Concert*

Where: Fillius Events Barn

When: Monday (Dec. 8th) Workshop- 4:30pm, Concert-8pm

Free with Hamilton ID ($7 w/out)

Come join the Hamilton College Democrats!

Meetings on Wednesdays @ 8:30pm in the Eells 1st floor lounge.

All are welcome!!

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game its in a tie, it is not counted. Last week, the experts combined for a 26-14 record.

	Michael Proia *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Ian Mandel *Spectator* *News Editor*	Allison Davis *Spectator* *I&I Editor*	Mike Osborne *Junior* *Guest #3*
Last Week's Record:	**8-2**	**6-4**	**5-5**	**7-3**	**3-7**
Season Record:	**14-6**	**13-7**	**7-13**	**15-5**	**8-13**
NFL					
Indianapolis @ Tennessee 12/7	Titans	Titans	Colts	Titans	Titans
Dallas @ Philadelphia 12/7	Cowboys	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles
Cincinatti @ Baltimore 12/7	Ravens	Ravens	Bengals	Bengals	Ravens
Seattle @ Minnesota 12/7	Seahawks	Vikings	Seahawks	Seahawks	Vikings
St. Louis @ Cleveland 12/8	Rams	Rams	Rams	Rams	Rams
College Basketball					
#12 Oklahoma @ #6 Michigan State 12/6	Sooners	Spartans	Sooners	Spartans	Spartans
#24 Gonzaga @ #25 Maryland 12/6	Terps	Terps	Terps	Terps	Bulldogs
#1 Kansas @ #17 Stanford 12/6	Jayhawks	Jayhawks	Jayhawks	Jayhawks	Jayhawks
College Football					
#3 LSU @ #5 Georgia 12/6	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Bulldogs
#13 Kansas State @ #1 Oklahoma	Sooners	Sooners	Sooners	Sooners	Sooners

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you into the section. Write "I can beat the experts" on a sheet of paper with your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editors at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're selected randomly, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

Women's hockey plays pair of games at Amherst

by Michael Osborne '05
SPORTS WRITER

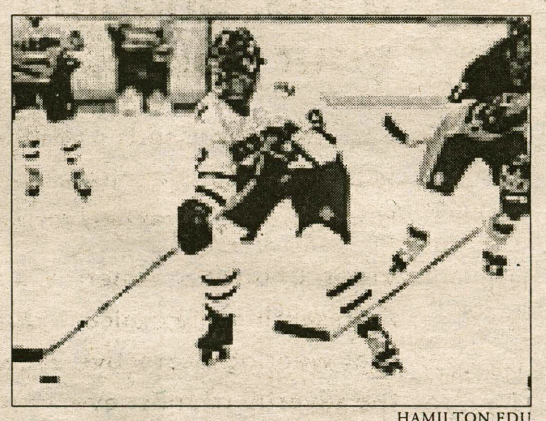
Last weekend, the women's hockey team traveled to Amherst, MA to battle the Amherst Lord Jeffs. The Continentals returned to Clinton with a 1-1 record, after losing to Amherst on Saturday by a score of 6 to 4 and defeating the Jeffs on Sunday by a score of 5 to 3.

In their first game of the season, the lady Conts did not show up ready to play hockey. Amherst jumped out to a 6-0 lead. The Continentals did not get on the board until 5:52 of the second period, when Zoe Baldwin '06 scored her first goal of the season with an assist from Erica Colligan '06. Hamilton's offense woke up after this goal, and the Continentals made the game interesting in the 3rd period by scoring 3 goals. Jane Bradley '06 assisted by Kristina Carroll '07 scored first followed by Baldwin's second of the game. Baldwin's goal was assisted by Marissa Halligan '05 and Bradley. The Continental's fourth goal was scored by Lindsay Bartz '07, her first of her Hamilton career, with assists going to Bradley and Halligan. This goal rounded out the scoring, as the Continentals fell by a score of 6-4. Freshman Caitlin Connelly '07 earned the start in goal and finished with 29 saves.

PHOTO BY LIZ KENNEDY '05

The Continentals practice before heading to Amherst for a pair of games last week.

The offensive output of the 2nd and 3rd periods of Saturday night's game carried over into Sunday afternoon, as the Continentals scored 3 unanswered goals in the first period. Zoe Baldwin started the scoring with assists going to Eden Self '04 and Julie Haney '07. Marissa Halligan notched her second goal of the season on the penalty kill with an assist from Jane Bradley. Eden Self, again on the penalty kill, closed out the first perio,d scoring with an assist from Baldwin. Baldwin scored the game winning goal in the third period on the power play with assists going to Halligan and Self. On the weekend, Baldwin finished with 4 goals and 1 assist. For her efforts, she was named the NESCAC Player of the Week. Freshman Lindsay Bartz rounded out the scoring on Sunday with assists going to fellow freshman Emma Griffith '07 and Kristina Carroll '07. Freshman Caitlin Connelly earned her first collegiate victory by making 23 saves.



HAMILTON.EDU

Hamilton could not rally all the way back from a six goal deficit.

Coach Bryant summed up the weekend by saying, "On Saturday, we did not start putting the puck in the net until the third period, and on Sunday we started to put the puck in the net right away. Overall, we really need to tighten up in our defensive zone. Offensively, we are going to be fine, but we really need to get stronger defensively. However, it was nice to see some defensemen stepping up and assisting on some goals. We did not see that a ton last year. But overall, last weekend's performance was not our best showing."

This Friday and Saturday the Bantams of Trinity College come to the Hill for the Lady Conts first two home games of the season. Hamilton must find a way to put some pucks by Trinity goalie, Mimi MacKinnon. MacKinnon made 39 saves last weekend in a 3-2 loss to Middlebury. The Continentals will put a lot of traffic in front of the net and hope for some screens, tips, and rebound goals. The Continentals have been working hard in practice in their defensive zone coverage and hope that it will carry over into this weekend.

In all, the Continentals have been working hard and their game is a work in progress. The Continentals are young, so it will take some time for the younger players to get acclimated with college hockey. However, the Continentals are 1-1 and are looking to improve to 3-1 this weekend, so let's Rage in the Sage this Friday and Saturday and cheer the Lady Continentals to victory numbers 2 and 3.

Men's hockey wins two of first three games

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's hockey team won a thriller last Tuesday against Cortland, 5-4. With less than a minute remaining in overtime, Derek Elliott '07 netted the game winner from an across ice pass from captain Jeff Corey '04. The Continentals refused to get frustrated after being down two goals early. Missed assignments and crucial defensive breakdowns led to the early deficit. The Continentals, however, came right back, scoring the next two goals to tie the game. Sophomore snipers Gus Katsuras and Erik Kallio '06 helped change the momentum of the game with their first period goals.

HAMILTON.EDU

Hamilton crashes the net.

After the Continentals tied the game, Head Coach Phil Grady decided to change the offensive forecheck. By only using one forechecker and Hamilton's wings to lock up on Cortland's wings in the offensive zone, Hamilton began to take over the game. Coach Grady commented on his decision to switch to the "center in" offensive philosophy.

"By locking up their wings, we eliminated the odd man rushes. Cortland did not respond well, and from then on we controlled the game. Because they were unable to react to the system, they kept dumping the puck in. And Gabe [Tash '06] responded well by passing the puck right up to our wings, giving us chances at the other end to put the puck in the net."

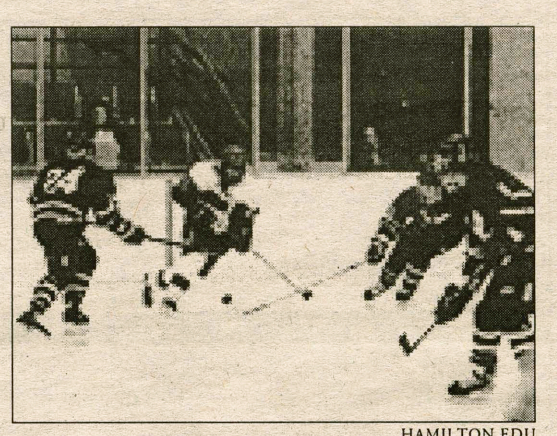
Because the Conts had a more profound emphasis on defense, Cortland turned the puck over on numerous occasions, creating instant scoring chances for Hamilton's offense. From then on the Continentals had the puck three quarters of game, and Cortland was forced to ice the puck and never generated any consistencies on the offensive end.

Last Saturday, the Continentals dominated UMass Boston, 7-1. Hamilton proved to be a much stronger team, never allowing UMass Boston to maintain any rhythm in the offensive or defensive zones. Jeff Vautour '06 led the Conts in scoring with two goals. Other goals were scored by John Gordon '07, Chris Clarkson '07, Andy Laskowski '04, Jeff Corey '04, and Eliott Altberg '05.

Prior to the convincing victory against UMass Boston, Hamilton lost a heartbreaker to Babson College, 6-4. The intense and enthusiastic crowd at Sage Rink invigorated the players, giving them an adrenaline rush that propelled them to a quick two goal lead after two periods. From then on, however, the Continentals allowed Babson to hang around the game, never putting the Beavers away. Because of that, Babson scored two quick goals in the third period, taking over the momentum for the remainder of the game.

Despite the loss, Coach Grady was happy about the team's performance the next day against UMass Boston.

"In fairness of to our guys, we rebounded well the next day. We came back in, discussed the strengths and weakness of the game from the night before. And when the puck dropped, we executed our systems well and kept pressure on UMass Boston during the entire game. The loss against Babson was disappointing to all of us, but I was very pleased with our positive mentality the next day. We needed to go out and out perform well, and we did just that."



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The Continentals are averaging over five goals per game so far this season.

This week, the men's hockey team is on the road for two tough games against Norwich and St. Michael's. Norwich, last year's national champion, is always a test for the Conts. Norwich has the luxury of playing in their own barn, and in that hostile environment, it will take a flawless performance at all end for the Conts to be successful. St. Michael's may have its most successful season in years, partly because of their strong core of returning playersand solid freshman.

Coach Grady had some final thoughts about the two tough games the Continentals face this weekend.

"We have a huge emphasis this week on our physical play, our plays in the corners, and most importantly, our defensive play. This weekend, we need to eliminate our opponents scoring opportunities. We need to take the body, and continue to separate the man from the puck. Everyone needs to play 60 minutes of outstanding hockey for us to be successful."

"If we do not finish our checks, if we are not the first men to the puck, if we do not maintain our composure with the puck, then we are playing their (Norwich's) game."

Women's basketball routs Utica, 91-50

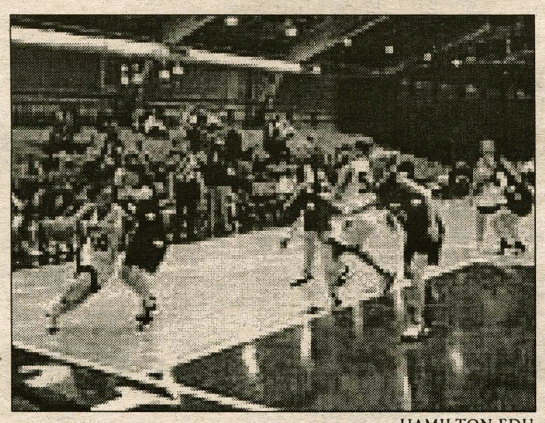
by Paul Kibbe '05
SPORTS WRITER

The women's basketball team came out firing on Tuesday night and left Utica in the dust, winning easily 91-50. Winning the season opener was big for the Continentals because it sets the tone for the rest of the season and last year's team suffered a tough loss to the team from Utica.

The women dominated on both ends of the court, Utica could not shoot, pass or rebound with the much stronger Hamilton team. Hamilton got great games out of everyone on the team with each player scoring at least two points.

When asked about the win, Jessica Pisegna '06 said, "It is very encouraging for us to come out so strong. Last year, we seemed to have a habit of lacking intensity in the first few minutes of the game. This game, we came out fiercely and it gave us momentum throughout the whole game. We have to be careful not to let the blowout go to our heads; this season will be tough, and this game is dissimilar to what our future competition will be."

Many younger players on the Hamilton team stepped up and had great performances in the win. Jessica Gorman '06 led all scorers with 16 points. Holly Erick '04, Alicia Giglio '06, and Liz Longley '07 each added 10 points and Longley also pulled down seven boards to lead the Continentals.



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Hamilton blew out Utica at home last Tuesday night.

Hamilton's starters played very well and set the tempo in the beginning of the game. They played so well that Hamilton went into the locker room at the half up 37-20. The team had no plans of slowing down in the second half and came out strong never giving the Utica women a chance to get back in the game.

"It is great to have big games from the sophomores and freshmen. The college game is a lot different than high school and one of the best ways to improve is through game experience. Getting the younger players time this early in the season is very beneficial because it allows them to get used to game situations and this will help us down the road," commented Jen Munoz.

Hamilton did not even need its starters in the second half; they played sparingly and gave way to freshmen and sophomores who ran the court for the Continentals in the second half. The younger players showed no signs of inexperience, dominating Utica much like the starters did. Jessica Pisegna '06 had 8 points, Maria Garvin '07 added 7 to match Kim Beevers '06 and Erin Daugherty '06 finished with 6.

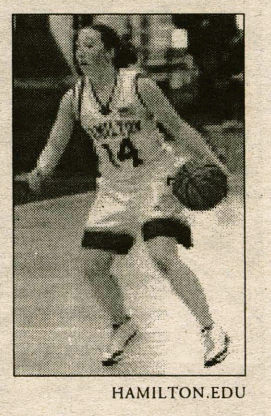
One of the main reasons Utica could not keep up with Hamilton was the number of people on the team. Although Hamilton dressed 14 players, Utica only had 8 players. Also, the Continentals could sub five players at a time, while the Utica team only had three women on the bench.

The Hamilton players were always fresh because they could get many breaks and this showed especially in the second half when Utica was clearly tired and could not keep up with the Hamilton women.

"We came onto the court ready to play and ready to win and the intensity we played with was a huge factor in our victory. Also, our deep bench gave us the advantage of constantly having fresh legs in the game, which is something Utica could not match," commented Erin Daugherty '06.

Hamilton has two more games before they leave for winter break, both of which are on the road. They travel to Cazenovia College on December 4th to play the women from Caz and then two days later continue on to Williamstown, Mass to take on the Williams College Ephs on December 6th. Last year the Continentals won at home against Cazenovia, 57-42 but lost at home to Williams 66-42.

"As long as the team plays with the same attitude and intensity as in the Utica game, and we do not underestimate our opponent, we should have no problem beating Caz. Williams will be a challenge, but we appear to be up for the task," said Giglio, "Two more wins before break would be a huge confidence booster and give us a lot of momentum going into future games and league play."



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Erin Dougherty runs the point.

This year's team looks like they have a lot more chemistry than a year ago and have already dominated at home with speed and strength. Now they will get their first test on the road to see how they can play away from the Hill.